OH YEAH

METAL MAGAZINE

RULES!

"Where the Underground meets the Playground."

ISSUE 5 SUMMER

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METAL RULES! MAGAZINE INVADES THE MARCH METAL MELTDOWN •

JEFF INTERVIEWS: STUART SMITH, GWAR, VANILLA ICE, SLUDGE!, HADES, LUNATIC GODS & OVERKILL

METAL RULES!™

MAGAZINE

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Metal Rules! Magazine back issues still available in extremely limited quantities!!!!!

A Moment With Jeff...

Yep! It's that time again....Time for tons of Metal and lots of pictures of Jeff to look at! Wheehooo! Actually, there is not quite as many pics of little ol' me this time. I know...I know...stop the tears from falling, it's for a good reason. My staff and I attended the March Metal Meltdown and it was damn fun! I've seen too many magazines give just a page or two to events like this. How can you give just a page or two to 30 hours of Metal? The theme of Metal Rules #5 is March Metal Meltdown. We have 4 different scene reports from the staff as well as shitloads of photos. These pictures are scattered throughout the entire issue with no band names written underneath. Why? Well, it's because in some cases we forgot who they were but for the most part we thought it would be fun to have a contest! Whoever names the most correct groups and the page they appear on gets to tickle Jeremy's taint. Oh, and you get a T-shirt as well. Can you believe the size of this monster? My 1st issue was 22 pages with a huge font and now you get this! Did I mention that I haven't raised the price? Yep, it's the same $4 USA and $6 World that it's always been. I feel like Todd Mcfarlane (This reference is for comic geeks only!) Pretty cheap for a mag that has only one paid advertisement in it! Why would would you want to advertise in here anyway? It's only being carried in dozens of distros and stores and being read by 1000's of people Worldwide. Please, I don't want you to get TONS of exposure so please don't waste your time advertising here. You'll have much better luck with the guy that prints 8 copies for his friends when he releases it tri-decadely. Anyway, what a diversified interview line-up we have here and to keep in the March Metal Meltdown spirit, I promise that NONE of these bands played there. In this very issue we have STUART SMITH (The Best Kept secret in Rock-Blues Guitar!), Sludge! (Upcoming Harcore! heroes), Luntatic Gods (All the way from Slovakia you can read about these insane Thrash/Death/Black/Power Lunatic Music stars), Gwar (Nuff said), Overkill (Thrash Legends), Hades (Progressive Power/Thrash gods) and drum roll please.....Vanilla Ice! Not to mention the Wonderfully Brutal Savage E-Mail, shitloads of honest reviews and more...I've experimented in this issue by having my staff doing some of the Zine reviews and they did splendid. See if you agree with me. I'm hard at work already on #6 and have completed an almost two hour interview with King Diamond which is the most revealing interview on King Diamond ever!! Wait 'till you read it. You're going to LOVE it! For NOW enjoy #5 for a TON of love (and work) has gone into making this the best read we can possibly create! So, read everything in here because nothing is worth skimming. It's too good for that! Mazel Tov!

This issue is dedicated to my Mom! The support she gives me is incredible and she is one of Metal Rules! biggest fans! Look for an interview with her in #6!!!

Ad space is available for issue #6 and #7. Contact me ASAP! All Distributors, stores owners and managers, and other people that would like to bring this to their local stores to earn some extra cash (and to be my friend. Wheeee!) get in touch for Consignment/Wholesale Rates and possible trade terms. All bands, labels and zines send your stuff in for a fair review and possible interview! Issue's #1, #2 and #4 are available for only $4 each(USA) or $6 each (Rest of the World) and our brand new Killer T-Shirts are available for only $12 (Worldwide). Sizes available are (XL ONLY) As you can see there are no longer any more copies of issue #3 or L or XXL T-Shirts. So act now on what's remaining or else you'll never own them. Make checks payable to Jeff Rappaport and yes, I take cash stupid!! Send to Metal Rules! Magazine, c/o Jeff Rappaport, 2116 Sandra Road, Voorhees, New Jersey 08043 USA. Email: metaljef@yahoo.com Check out our website at: www.haddons.com/metalrules • Metal Rules! Magazine is not affiliated with the online zine www.metal-rules.com

METAL FEST REPORT

by Jeff Rappaport

I always heard about Metalfest and reallllllly wanted to go but it was too far. That was until the lovely Jack Koshick brought the Fest to NJ! Wasn't I lucky? Even better was the fact that I got 3/4 of my Staff to go. Our cherubic artist decided to go to a Ballet and a Daisy Horticulture lesson instead. After a two hour drive punctuated with excitement and fudge stripe cookies we arrived.

To say Asbury Park, NJ was a shithole would be the understatement of the Year. Luckily, the snotty bastards that I work with decided to stay at the $140 a night Hotel directly across from the Convention Center. That was a decision I'm glad they made after viewing the Pelican Hotel that I suggested. Jeremy and I went to check in and were physically overwhelmed by the stench of Europeans. Yes, we were sharing the lobby with the headliners. HYPOCRISY, AMORPHIS and DIMMU BORGIR were all stinking up the lobby. I'm not actually sure who stunk and who didn't but somebody wasn't wearing deodorant. Maybe, it was that white kid with the Dreads? Anyway, we checked in and we had the room next to DIMMU. Yep, they jammed their band into one room just like the Staff of *Metal Rules!* I attempted a conversation with one of them and they scattered down the hall in terror.

What was really strange was not only was there a Metalfest but some kind of Jewish kids convention going on as well. We blended with both crowds as we had brought a box of matzoh to snack on in the car and were proudly carting it through the Lobby. We checked in and ate at the lamest Ho Jo's of all time. I ordered a chesstak (That's the way it was spelled on the menu.) and watched my Waiter/chef/Host strut around the restaurant. Hmmmmm...Does anybody else work here? My bunkmates all ordered the Hamburger platter because they were too cheap to pay the extra 35 cents for a chesstak. I'm sure they were dissapointed because their food looked nasty.

I then played the Concert Press Pass game. Come back in an hour...come back again in 15 minutes...I'm familiar with the routine. Eventually, we were in. My first view of a band was DEAD BY MORNING. They were a Black Metal band with a shrieking vocalist and he was covered in blood! Alright, we were Home! I can't remember which order I saw bands in as I was constantly on the go but here we go, some bands aren't listed. That would be because either I didn't hear them or they were completely forgettable. CHAOS THEORY: Play a simple Thrash. They are better Live than on CD. Average...INTERNAL BLEEDING: Heavy...DYING FETUS: Heavier...EARTH CRISIS: Better Live as well...Great stage presence. Singer still sounds like a mongoloid. He's probably as smart as one too...I had a converstion with him during BLITZKRIEG's set trying to explain to him about the song "Blitzkrieg" and how METALLICA covers it. I'd get better conversation from a lamp post. ICED EARTH: Phenomenal!!! After their incredible new release the sky is the limit with this Traditional Metal band...AMORPHIS: Excellent...Very different...I think one of the guys has a crush on me though and it made me a little uncomfortable HYPOCRISY: Glad I got to see them but I wasn't overly impressed...It wasn't their fault, their 2nd guitarist had food poisoning. Maybe he had the Cheeseburger platter at Ho Jo's? DIMMU BORGIR: The Highlight of the Convention...they raged!! When they first came out and just stood there it was so scary that I pooped my pants...I think it was payback for scaring them early in the day G.O.D.: Not bad but the guy looked like Rob Zombie. WYKKED WYTCH: Not bad but I wish that she (The Singer) wouldn't have got soooo close to me while I was shooting her picture...Yikes...She just needs a broom and she'll be all set. DISARRAY: I would have liked to have liked this but it was fair...Better on tape...SHANGO: Fun...The fat guy was really cuddly and the Mafia guys smoking cigars on both sides of the stage was a nice touch..These guys are going to be big...That fat guy will be bigger.. SPINESHANK: I heard one second of them and ran screaming...they suck! SEPULTURA: Sounded damn good but I miss Max..

IN RUINS: They Blow...DECEASED: What Metal is all about...Another highlight of the Fest. I even gave King Fowley a *Metal Rules!* shirt INCANTATION: Average Death...I think their drummer was following me around the show because I saw him more than the people I came with. MORTICIAN: They actually had a drummer and instead of being the most cliche' Death Metal band in the world, they just sucked SKINLESS: A lot of fun and they jammed...Where was everybody? GARDEN OF SHADOWS: Why isn't this band signed? Their Brand of Ambient Death is heads above the competition..They played great and it was only 11:00am. IMPALER: Singer has gotten fatter. Hell of a lot of fun and they were damn good too..Incorporated wrestling and gore into the show. Poor crowd turnout for a band that was underated in their time and even now that they're back they're still underrated DIVINE EMPIRE: Perfect for MORBID ANGEL fans. These guys rocked! LORDE OF ALL DESIRES: Yuck...I saw about one minute of them and they had me heading for the hills DEATH KIDS: Kicked ass. But their singer is like 17. If that dude's 12 then I'm Madonna. SLAUGHTER HOUSE: Their singer got fat too-and clumsy! He fell off the stage while writhing around like a mingaloid. The music was cool...BLOODFEAST: These Jersey boys kicked booty and their singer is still skinny...WHIPLASH: Hell yea..they haven't missed a beat..Killer Thrash...RIOT: I saw these guys when I was 15 and now I'm seeing them at 32. Very cool..The lineup may have changed but they still play their hearts out. Essential...ANVIL: Rocked of course and Lips played his solo standing in front of me. Really, he walked over to my seat and played..Very scary...SWEET SAVAGE: Classic but what was the lead vocalist of GREEN DAY doing playing guitar for them? BLITZKRIEG with Jess Cox (TYGERS OF PANTANG): Yes...Very cool...RAVEN: I didn't get to see a lot of them but they were playing like 20 year olds! I would have loved to see more. BUTCHERY: Killer Grind with a female vocalist..She had crazy contacts in and growled between songs but nothing mattered while they played...One of the Best unsigned bands at Metalfest..CRYPTOPSY: These guys play killer grind as well but as a live band I'd prefer their CD! VADER: Jammed! NAPALM DEATH: I got on the stage and took pictures. An experience I'll never forget. Great stuff! What was up with Barney's outfit? Orange t-shirt and shorts?

Other cool experiences at the Fest was meeting all my e-mail and snail mail friends that I never met before. The fact that my magazine is full of photos of myself certainly came in handy as person after person came over to me. I felt like a celebrity! It was great to meet Matt, Dale, Burt, Alex, cuddly Phil, Marco, Jennifer, Debbie and many others! It was great to meet you all! Jeff Wagner where are you? I tried to find you like 5 times. My friends were all dead by about 3 hours in to the show but they made it through. Special thanks to Joe for going Psycho on me for the 2nd time. Next time you're getting punched in the throat. Just kidding...maybe...He drove both ways. One hell of a peachy keen lad is what he is. One thing I forget to mention is that it was cold...Ice cold...I was freezing my ass off...I was always told Metalfest was steaming Hot. No way! I should have brought a coat. By the way ask Jeremy how he could fall asleep during HYPOCRISY and survived an entire day of Metal with No food. His story should be better than mine....Bye.

...and now Josh's

TIP OF THE WEEK

"It's not a good idea to whistle while eating corn dogs"

Thank you

What?! Not again...why do I keep these guys around? -Jeff

Do you have the other 4 stellar issues of Metal Rules! Magazine?

Issue #1

Issue #2

Issue#3

Issue #4

...and now a public announcement from Metal Jeff

A Note About Stamps and Postage For My Friends Around the World...

I have never ordered a thing from another country before because I thought it would cost a fortune, take a long time and I'd have to get special stamps or something. The truth is you can use regular stamps and it only costs 50 cents to send a postcard from the US to ANYWHERE in the world, except Mexico and Canada, where it costs less. Go to your local post office. Most regular one page letters (with a check or money) will be 60 cents out of country of origin.

Try something new. Make a new foreign friend and hear a cool new band!! BE RISKY!! BE DARING!!! BE WILD!!!! This is a special service announcement from *Metal Rules! Magazine.* Thank you!

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GWAR INTERVIEW

My little lambikens Jeremy (Designer, Editor of this Very Mag!) loves GWAR! Jebediah (Another nickname for this dent chested bastard of a Designer-Editor-Non Hat wearer) is a very cherubic lad and I thought it would be lovely if he did the interview! This fucker could replace me! This Interview is hilarious! Read on! -Jeff (Publisher, main writer and the man with all the hats!)
Oh yeah, you need an intro...This is GWAR. They're sick.

Oderus Urungus: This Is Dave From Gwar.
MR: Hey hows it going man?
Oderus: Dave slash Oderus slash The Sodomizer of Millions thats me.
MR: Um hmn. Excellent.
Oderus: You got me, sorry I'm ten minutes late but the dumb ass label gave me the wrong phone number.
MR: What!?
Oderus: They gave me the wrong phone number!!!! (Slips into Oderus Mode)
MR: What?!!! (Jeremy slips into loud cracking voice mode!)
Oderus: They gave me the wrong phone number. Can you believe it?
MR: Those Bitches!
Oderus: And they call themselves a Metal Blade.
MR: What the? That's It.
Oderus: I tried to get them to change the name of the label actually to Metal Brick.
MR: Metal Brick (Right here your faithful interviewer starts to lose it) Nice!
Oderus: It'd be good. A brick so heavy that it is made out of metal. They won't listen to me though.
MR: Yes I understand.
Oderus: They're idiots. Well you want me you got me. Shoot.
MR: OK. Well there is me and there is one other guy here from the staff.
Oderus: Oh Jesus.
MR: Oh, shut the hell up.
Oderus: I thought there was only gonna be one person here.
MR: Oh, kiss my ass.
Oderus: I'm not ready for two people here.
MR: Oh, relax.
Oderus: If your ass was here I would kiss it I would lick it. I would lick your little ass.
MR: How did you know it was little?
Oderus: I'm smellin' through the phone.
MR: Uh huh.
Oderus: You know I'm an ass man.
MR: I know, I know.
Oderus: The new album is about asses.
MR: I noticed. And Fishfucking.
Oderus: And fucking animals and raping babies and all that. We wanted to make an album that was a little more light hearted.
MR: That was a good direction. First Question. How many Asian Cock smacks are in a fistful?
Oderus: I have no idea you got me unprepared there let me pull my pants down to check.
MR: Alright go ahead. (pause for the disrobing)
Oderus: cocks...
MR: Well...
Oderus: I don't know repeat the question.
MR: How many asian cock smacks are in a fistful?
Oderus: Asian cocks are small... so it depends on the size of the fist. My fist you could fit easily eight.
MR: OK
Oderus: Your fist I'm not so sure.
MR: Well my fist is probably about... yeah.
Oderus: Well how many Asian cocks can you fit in your fist?
MR: At least fifteen.
Oderus: Fifteen!
MR: Yeah.
Oderus: Wow! You've got a big fist maybe you could stick it up my butt next time I come to town.
MR: Well if you like. If you come to Philly again.
Oderus: Can you believe it VH1 wants us to be on "Where Are They Now?"
MR: What!? (Very excited and his voice doesn't even crack!-Jeff)
Oderus: Yeah.
MR: Are you serious?
Oderus: What do you think about that? Should I do it?
MR: Oh that'd be funny as hell.
Oderus: Okay, we're doing it. Thanks for the advice there.
MR: No problem. Any time.
Oderus: What do you mean where am I now? Where was I ever?
MR: Where have you been?
Oderus: Where have I been? Who am I? Don't give me this crap. Oh yeah we're doing it.
MR: Alright, I'll have to look for that.
Oderus: Yeah they're coming down next week to do this shit.
MR: Excellent. Do you think purple is the root of all evil?
Oderus: That's Prince's favorite color isn't? IT's also the color of royalty. I hate those fucking royal muckitty mucking fuck heads. I don't know I never really thought about it.
MR: I see.
Oderus: But yeah sure I'll agree with anything.
MR: Aw, now come on.
Oderus: Why not?
MR: Alright.
Oderus: Once you've done fifteen interviews in a row you're at the point where you'll agree with just about anything.
MR: Right. I hear you. (Just like Jeremy apparantly.-Jeff) So can you smell what the Rock is cooking?
Oderus: No, no I can't. I'm out of crack right now I'm kind of pissed at Sleazy. My dumptruck was supposed to show up an hour ago.
MR: Bitches!
Oderus: Bitches!!
MR: What the...? If you could be any Teletubby which one would you be?

Oderus: Uh Ling Ling? Or is that the panda in the Zoo?
MR: I think that's the panda.
Oderus: Oh.
MR: Yeah they're the little faggoty (He means a bundle of sticks of course.-Jeff) things from England.
Oderus: Right, right, right.
MR: Yeah. What's in your CD player right now?
Oderus: Hold let me check.
MR: No, no checking! (He yells this!)
Oderus: It's empty. But if there was something in it would be a Thin Lizzy album. I'm not sure which one.
MR: Oh OK. That's nice. Pick a number between one and three?
Oderus: Three!
MR: No, I'm sorry that's wrong.
Oderus: Dammit.
MR: Next Question. If a tree falls in the woods and no one is there to see fall it do the other trees laugh at it?
Oderus: Does the Pope shit in the woods?
MR: Yes, he does.
Oderus: There's your answer. (Through the next series of questions you can plainly hear Angus and I giggling like a couple of school girls at a Hanson concert.-Jeff)
MR: Aww Fuck me! Does Raggedy Ann have a cotton crotch?
Oderus: Uhh Eight.
MR: Excellent. So do you like Jeff?
Oderus: Hate him.
MR: I do too.
Oderus: He stinks.
MR: He's a cock smack.
Oderus: (Laughs)
MR: How do you think the Y2K bug is going to affect Gwar?
Oderus: It's not really gonna effect us at all because you guys got it wrong we use the Chinese calendar.
MR: Do you!
Oderus: Yeah. It's 3008.
MR: Oh Really.
Oderus: The nine bug might fuck with me though. Pathetic?
MR: Uh huh. Pretty pathetic.
Oderus: Pretty pathetic or Pathetically Herpetic.
MR: Hermetically whatever you said.
Oderus: Hermetically Herpetic.
MR: Right that works.
Oderus: (goes off on a bit of a tangent here) ***Did you see the new fucking Sandra Bullock/Ben Affleck movie? Are you buying that shit.***
MR: Are you going to see it?
Oderus: Fuck that. Have you seen the ad for it? It looks like he's in pain she grabbing him going (don't ask I can't describe the sound he makes here-Angus)**. *She's easily like twelve years older than him.***
MR: Oh, he's a wuss.
Oderus: He's a wuss!
MR: Well you saw him in Armageddon didn't you?
Oderus: Ah Terrible!
MR: He cried the entire time.
Oderus: Crying, whining, simpering bastard.
MR: He cried like Nancy Kerrigan.
Oderus: She deserved it the little bitch.
MR: How come you didn't hit her?
Oderus: I did. That was me.
MR: That was you!?
Oderus: I should of hit her harder.
MR: Aww Dammit.
Oderus: How about this guy from Fairbanks, Virginia pulling off the quadruple toe loop in the Finland Ice skating thing? (He is showing an expansive knowledge of ice skating here... Kind of scary huh?-Angus)
MR: That was pretty bad the adjustable screw grab was even worse.
Oderus: Ahh Jesus.
MR: Can you imagine that?
Oderus: The scrotum tickler.
MR: I thought the bum tickler was the best though.
Oderus: Uh yeah. Next question.
MR: In your best estimation just how high is up?
Oderus: Uh 18, 25, 6. I don't know numbers mean nothing to me.
MR: Really.
Oderus: Well five.
MR: When is the tour for this album to begin?
Oderus: Again numbers. That is a number that means something to me. We leave on April 28.
MR: Coming to Philly?
Oderus: We are sure gonna make Philadelphia cause we love you guys.
MR: Excellent. Do you need an opening band?
Oderus: No.
MR: Oh well. We know a good one.
Oderus: Don't care.
MR: Who do you root for Tom or Jerry?
Oderus: Mighty Mouse.
MR: Wrong ,try again.
Oderus: So it's totally impossible for me to win the luggage at this point?
MR: Yes. Your going to have to go with the lovely parting gift.
Oderus: What is that?
MR: An asian Cock Smack. (Uncomfortable silence-Jeff) Which do you prefer Scooby Doo or Scooby Dumb?
Oderus: Oh hate 'em all. Especially Scrappy Doo. But what's her name, the girl with the glasses?
MR: Thelma.
Oderus: Thelma! I'd do Thelma.
MR: You know a lot of people say that.
Oderus: I don't know why. She's just kind of cute with that little short skirt that she wears. And the way that she runs with her ass sticking out.
MR: Ah you noticed.
Oderus: You could put a fucking drink on that thing.
MR: Yes you could. Some word association... What comes to mind when I say Crocodile Hunter?
Oderus: Animal Planet
MR: Redneck?
Oderus: Uh try it again.
MR: Redneck?
Oderus: Uh Greenneck.
MR: Toxic Avenger.
Oderus: Piss Poor.
MR: Rappaport
Oderus: Hockey Puck
MR: Angus
Oderus: Mcgee
MR: Dog
Oderus: Bowser
MR: Wingnut
Oderus: Scrotal
MR: Excellent. Good job.
Oderus: Thanks! Do I get the Luggage?
MR: Yes you did you get the luggage.
Oderus: Yeaheahya (Very excited!-Jeff)
MR: Angus tell him what he's won.
Angus: Uh...(uh, it's a good thing he was there to help, huh?-Jeff)
MR: All right that's enough time. How does it feel to be in the world renowned Metal Rules! Magazine?
Oderus: This is the greatest honor I have ever had. I will cherish my luggage and fill them with the depleted cock snippings of every little faggot boy I come in contact with.
MR: That is beautiful. That is poetry.
Oderus: Thank You.
MR: Will you make us a message for our answering machine?
Oderus: Sure.

Continued on page 64

Music Reviews

ABHORRENCE
Ascension **Demo**

I like the Brazilian stamp, which is bananas! La la la la la la la...la la la One Banana, two bana...ahhh...sorry. My biggest problem with this demo is the damn thing ends just as you start getting into it. It's too friggin' short!! Musically it's just the right mixture of SLAYER and DEVASTATION with a slight Death Metal influence. Not much more to say because it zips right by. Quality stuff though. I want a full length! Demo is $5 (World) and they have a T-shirt $15 (World) as well. Contact: **ABHORRENCE**, Rangel Arroyo, Av. Cenobelino B. Serra, 2014 Id. Canaa-Cep: 15030-000, Sao Jose de Rio Preto/ SP-Brasil Fax: 55(017)233-6524 E-Mail: siage@nuteecnet.com.br

ABIGAIL
Sonnets **Bestial Records**

Is it just me, or every time you hear the name Abigail, you can only picture it being screamed out of the mouth of "one" KING DIAMOND? ***Sonnets*** will forever be known as the cassette that fucked up my cassette player in my car. It was really dusty and I had to have it professionally cleaned because of it. I finally got to listen to this tape and I found it a most gratifying experience. **ABIGAIL** tries to create a new sound for themselves. They are able to do just that and do it well! **ABIGAIL** is a delightful mix of Classic Rock and Doom with some Classic Metal thrown in. Most relevant in their Classic Rock sound is the heavy, PINK FLOYD influence. It's funny how two types of music that I really don't care for (Doom and Classic Rock) meld so unblemished and tasty! I'm not sure how to label this band. Just label them purchasable! Check them out!! Contact: **Bestial Records**, Str. Carasc nr 8, 1900 TIMISOARA, Romania Tel/Fax: 056-163024 E-Mail:bestialr@banat.ro

ADRAMELECH
Seven **Repulse Records**

You can always count on **Repulse** for some serious Death Metal and **ADRAMELECH** is no exception. These three Finnish lads make quite an impressive racket. The drumming is especially out of control, and of course I mean that in a positive sense. This CD features 5 tracks, two of which are "Live." "Live" where? I hear absolutely no audience. "Live," in their Mother's basement...**ADRAMELECH**!!!! I really did enjoy this though. They can play my loft any day! I would like to hear more for this teaser was not quite enough! Contact: **Repulse Records** P.O. Box 50562 28080-Madrid Spain

AIN'T
If it's Illegal to Rock and Roll Then Throw My Ass in Jail **Demo**

I like the letter this band sent me with their demo CD. It says "We're not Metal, we're Rock but we like Metal. Does that count?" Very cute. **AIN'T** is the kind of three chord Rock I rarely listen to unless it's AC/DC or the 440's who are the true masters of that genre. Average music for an average music style is what this is. The band has that snotty Punk Rock look and have the tough bitch singing that seems to be all the rage these days. I'd rather hear some Metal! Contact: **Gluttony Productions** 584 Castro St. Suite 622, San Francisco, CA 94114 USA

ANASARCA
God Machine **Repulse Records**

Formed from the ashes of the band VOMITING CORPSES we get **ANASARCA**! How do you pronounce that? What the hell is an **ANASARCA** anyway? If a corpse vomited what comes out? Dirt? I would rather be vomited on by a corpse than a living human being. How about you? **ANASARCA** is an extremely heavy but not overwhelmingly thrilling affair. With a mixture of NAPALM DEATH and MONSTROSITY influences along with maybe a couple of lines of crank added to it you still get this average CD. Good Brutal Death Metal but with 9,000,000 bands to choose from **ANASARCA** ends up somewhere in the middleground. Close but no cigar. Contact: **Repulse Records** P.O. Box 50562, 28080 Spain

APOPHIS
Down In The Valley **Morbid Records**

APOPHIS jams! Is that plain and simple enough for you? Once again more fine Metal from Germany! **APOPHIS** is Death Metal but generic it's not. **APOPHIS** *Down In The Valley* is filled with interesting twists and turns not to mention some cool "Doomy" parts which most bands can't pull off effectively. If your looking for influence I find quite a bit of DEATH's *Spiritual Healing* in their sound. **APOPHIS** is more complex than that album and quite a bit heavier. No, I'm not knocking DEATH's *Spiritual Healing*. I love that album. God dammit, can't I just make an example without you reading into it. What stands out the most on here is the intricate guitar playing of Roger Kirchner and Jorg (He has those dot things above his name but I don't know how to do that on my computer.) Bartlet. These guys are only like 21-years-old so they should grow into formidable monsters! Hey! The bassist, vocalist and drummer aren't slouches either. **APOPHIS** blasts at times, grinds during others and is never dull. Nice cover art too!! Label Contact: **Morbid Records**, Postfach 3, D-03114 Drebkau, Germany Fax: 49 35 6022 06 36 Band Contact: **APOPHIS**, Schwarzfeldstr.1, D-73434 Aalen, Germany Fax: 49 73 61 76 151 Phone: 49 71 95 94 79 63

AURORA BOREALIS
Praise The Archaic Lights Embrace **Demo**

Somebody tell me why these guys aren't signed to a label. This is what Death Metal is all about! Crisp, searing licks with evil witchy-like vocals, pounding drums and tons of speed is what this band is all about!! Super fast but still very much in control is the style they play! So grab a handful of caffeine pills and thrash around your living room until you make yourself sick!! I think this band might consider changing their name and logo to make it stand out from the veritable hordes of Sub-Par Death Metal bands with indecipherable logos. I also dig the classic Thrash riffs that are thrown in on here. Good shit!! CD is available for $10 (Worldwide) and their first CD is available for $7 (Worldwide). Contact: Aurora Borealis P.O. Box 1327 , Clinton, MD 20735-5327 USA E-Mail: AURORA4DTH@aol.com Web: www.concentric.net/~Neophil/AuroraBorealis

BABYLON WHORES
Deggael **Misanthropy**

Wow! Finally a real CD from the label who helped me introduce Photo Reviews to the world! This band plays a Gothic Heavy Rock that actually interests me! Any band that has "Whore" in their title has got to rule a little. Right? What I like the most about it is that it rocks so fuckin' much on some tracks!! The music also has the feel of the creepier New Wave bands of the 80's with added doses of DANZIG and massive power! Whammo!!! That's the best way to describe this band. This is music with a lot of emotion and uncategorizable (Always a bonus!). It seems Finland (Home of **BABYLON WHORES**) has quite a diverse scene! Contact: **Dutch East India Trading** P.O. Box 738, Syosset, NY 11791 USA • Web: www.dutch-east.com

BORKNAGAR
The Archaic Course **Century Media**

What do you get when you get together an All-Star band with members who have been or are still a part of IMMORTAL, HADES, ARCTURUS, VEN BUENS ENDE, GORGOROTH, ENSLAVED and MOLESTED? An incredibly harsh Black Metal assault right? Wrong. What a lame ass CD this is. Atmospheric Metal with ho-hum vocals crooning in an almost folksy way, some scruffy vocals thrown in and the same repetitive beat throughout most of the record is what you get. I especially liked the Lawrence Welk 70's styled keyboards. Yeah, that really won me over. Whooppeeee!!! Here and there you get a poignant moment but for the most part it sounds like a collection of B-sides that were tossed off at a big bong party. "Ad Noctum" was pretty cool and the only song worth your time. Oh by the way, the band name sucks too!

BORN
Raging **New Found Hope Records**

Granted the stores are not gonna close and it's not going to be Beatlemania when this band comes to town but **BORN** still has it's merit. This Hardcore/Punk foursome hits you with simple riffs, pulsing bass and semi-angry vocals. There is plenty to headbang to so why wouldn't this be considered Metal? Hardcore is so close to Metal that it's hard for me to tell a difference sometimes. How the hell would a novice heavy-music listener notice the difference? If you like heavy, simple music that pumps you up then this is not the best CD you'll ever hear but it rocks just the same, in a slightly better than average sort of a way. One word of advice for this label is to invest in new business cards. The one they sent me was pathetic with a bunch of friggin' shit crossed off and such. Contact: **New Found Hope Records** P.O. Box 564551 College Point, NY 11356 USA

J.D. BRADSHAW
Caught In The Act **Acadia Entertainment**

Here's one of those instrumental guitar shredder CD's that I so love! **J.D. BRADSHAW** plays lead, rhythm, bass and handles the vocals as well. There are 4 tracks on here. "Coolin' Out" is a totally Satriani-esque affair with a taste of originality. "Beltane" is just a crazed solo with some slower sections that jam just the same. Incredible riffin' on here! On "All the Way" J.D. decides he should sing as well. He's wrong. He should just stick to what he's great at, which is guitar playing. His vocals sound like all those lame Glam High School bands. Actually he sounds exactly like my old friend "Heavy Metal Rick" in whatever band he was in for about 4 minutes. In fact "Rick" sang better. This is the only weak track on here. The CD closes with "Blue 135" which you've probably have guessed by now that it's a Heavy Metal meets Blues track. That's what it is and it's alriiight with me. My advice to J.D. would be to get a vocalist and do some touring! If shreddin' is your thing send $8 (Worldwide) Check or Money Order made out to **Acadia Entertainment**. Every CD comes with a free promotional item!! Contact: **Acadia Entertainment** Box 123 Wachapreague, VA 23480 USA

BRAINDANCE
Redemption **Pre-Production EP**

This tape really pisses me off! From their awesome media kit you hear how the world speaks volumes of this soon to be cult sensation! Yes, supposedly they are going to take the world by storm!! When the tape begins I begin to see what they speak of. An impressive, original, and keyboard-laden Theatrical Metal sound with extraordinary vocals greets you. Then nothing. No, the tape doesn't end but 4 songs come and go and you say to yourself "What the fuck?" The biggest problem is this doesn't rock at all, but it should. It reminds me of when I first heard METALLICA's *Load*. I kept thinking to myself that somewhere one of Kirk's rippin' solos would come in but it just didn't happen. That same feeling is prevalent on here, and it pisses me off! This band may one day release an awe-inspiring production but this isn't it. Contact: **Double Edge Productions** 215 Thompson St. Suite 11, New York, NY 10012 USA Tel: (212)LAW-8034 Fax: (212)979-7462

CAGE
Unveiled **Demo**

This starts off with a solid 10-second scream! **CAGE** is a Heavy Metal band - pure and simple. Soaring vocals accompanied by group vocal punctuated choruses is their forte. You know what I mean by group punctuated choruses right? Example: The singer is going off and the rest of the band is going "Shoot to kill!" This is for fans of JUDAS PRIEST, GRIM REAPER, LIZZY BORDEN and ARMORED SAINT! Sonically they have that twin guitar attack. **CAGE** is very similar to JUDAS PRIEST musically even employing the riff from "The Ripper" on one track. Ironically **CAGE** was opening for PRIEST on some of their recent tour dates. PRIEST voted them "Best Opening band". I'm sure they were a hell of a sight better than the losers I saw open for PRIEST. Sean Peck is a vocalist of the highest Metal caliber. He reaches all those ungodly high notes without it sounding ridiculous and is generally successful covering the full range of Metal notes. This is not a perfect album although very much worth checking out. The minor problems are that most of the songs are so incredible that others sound more like filler. If the filler songs were collected on a separate CD they still would be a lot better than many groups though. The other problem is what I like to call "Too Many Words Syndrome." It seems they are jamming too many words in to some of the parts. If they were to chop off some of the run-ons (Like Jeremy does for me.)(Which is now MY job, dammit-Joe!)(You're fired. -Jeremy) off their lovingly hokey lyrics then the vocals would run smoother. All in all an extremely fun and very METAL album. Try checking the stores for this but if you don't have luck Contact: **CAGE** P.O. Box 83997 San Diego, CA 92138 USA • Phone: (619)595-6105 or (619)295-1683 • Web: http://members.aol.com/ncchainsaw/cage

CENTINEX
Reborn Through Flames **Repulse**

Not afraid to sound very ENTOMBED-like describes **CENTINEX**! Great release especially if your a fan of that Old School, fast paced and downtuned Swedish sound. **CENTINEX** kick through eight numbers right before your ears with no sense of filler anywhere in sight. Although I like what ENTOMBED's sound evolved into, I always went back to their older albums to hear shit like **CENTINEX** is now doing. This had me jammin' all through my house, with an air-guitar in one hand, totally distracting me from the workout I was supposed to be doing. Thanks **CENTINEX**, now my chest feels mushy this week. Contact: **Repulse Records** P.O. Box 50562, 28080 Madrid- Spain

CRACKDOWN

Rise Up **Diehard Music**

Me and the President of this record label had quite an interesting conversation back and forth via about 20 E-mails. I had to keep insisting to him that America had an interest in his label. He finally gave in and put me on his promo list. I'm the most persistent bastard in the world - if you didn't know that already. I'm glad he gave in because with this first release I've been sent quite a winner. **CRACKDOWN** is a Hardcore band from Italy. This is not a typical place for a Hardcore band to come from. Oddly it sounds as if they came straight from NYC! This is the best Hardcore I've ever heard in my life. It actually sounds different than the usual Hardcore which is probably why I dig it so much. **CRACKDOWN** sounds so much more energized than any other Hardcore bands I've ever heard. BIOHAZARD loves this band and Evan Seinfeld even makes an appearance on here. Personally I like these guys a thousand fold more than BIOHAZARD. There's a real spacey, out of character number on here that's hidden after song #10. It's really bizarre and when you're done you've realized you've listened to a totally special CD. Contact: **Diehard Music Worldwide**, Vindegade 101, DK-5000, Odense C, Denmark

CRYPTOPSY

Whisper Supremacy **Century Media**

There is not one hint of a whisper on this CD. That is a fact! What false advertising. It states in their bio that this band wants to concentrate on the one thing they do best: Brutality! Well, they've concentrated pretty damn hard because this is like slamming your head against the wall repeatedly causing you to pass out. After this, your friends will lift your head up and continue to bang it for you! **CRYPTOPSY** play Ultra-Brutal Grind with surprisingly decipherable vocals. Tons of stop-start on here that really has you pondering where songs start and end. If you care about every song sounding different then this is not for you. ***Whisper Supremacy*** is essentially one long jam session guaranteed to cause you to shoot your boss and blacken your girlfriend's eye. 110% guaranteed brutal!!!!

DAYS OF YORE

The Mad God's Wage ***Demo***

This was without a doubt the most spectacular promotional kit that I've ever received. A CD, cassette, photo and a 36-page, glossy, full-color book all encased in a beautiful solid box complete with full color art! Musically **DAYS OF YORE** are True Metal/Power Metal with more-than-adequate skills! There are two problems on here that would be simple to fix. A new vocalist is definitely in order. The one-dimensional vocals are not on par nor do they work with the music being played. The other problem is repetition. For all the jamming that's going on it still relegates itself to background music. I think the fact that the vocals are so weak contributes to the repetition. It just takes away from what the rest of the band is doing. When I tune him out, it becomes so much better. The sweeping guitars on here are majestic. Of course you get that great stereo effect of the solos coming out of separate speakers (Should sound especially cool on headphones!) and then played together. Memorable choruses on here would definitely add to these proceedings! **DAYS OF YORE** have much potential but must kick their vocalist to the curb! Fans of Medieval style lyrics, sword and sorcery and MANOWAR type stylings should check this out. Contact: **DAYS OF YORE** C/O Martin Giguere 833 Maisonneuve, Appartment #101, Granby, Quebec, Canada J2J 1S5

DAYS OF YORE

They All Looked So Kind ***Demo***

Ask and ye shall receive! What did I dislike about the Days of Yore demo? Vocals. Well, after hearing my psychic plea they have got a new vocalist! My prayers have been answered! It was the kick in the ass that this band needed! With this 4 song teaser the TNT-inspired vocals shine. Now you know **DAYS OF YORE** will release a monster for their next full length! Sometime soon, hopefully! Now I'm psyched! In the meantime write to them and check this out! Guess what? Even the music got better and it kicked ass to begin with. Get pen to paper now loghead! (See address above)

DEATH

The Sound of Perseverance **Nuclear Blast**

When one of my editor's first handed this to me I was elated. He then proceeded to tell me this sucks and Chuck sounds like a witch! How dare he. Dammit, he's the editor, not music reviewer! Ballsy ass Bastard! Why I oughta...wait he's right! Actually it doesn't suck but Chuck does sound like a witch. He did tell me that the music had some cool parts and that was equally true. Chuck has changed his vocal style again and this is by far the worst. I always enjoy listening to **DEATH** but nothing holds a candle to the first 3 releases. I looked forward to CONTROL DENIED which was the Power Metal project Chuck never quite got off the ground. I've seen his playing slowly switching to a Power/Progressive style over the last few records. It's too bad, with a powerful singer they would be unstoppable! This album doesn't blow but I enjoy it the least of the entire **DEATH** catalog. It's fair but won't make my play list. One notable item on here is the cover of JUDAS PRIEST's "Painkiller." When did Chuck learn to scream like that? Very impressive. He's not Rob, or Ripper for that matter, but surprisingly strong on this track. I wish he had this energy on the other tracks. Welcome back, Chuck, just the same.

DESTINY

The Undiscovered Country **Black Sun Records**

Here's a band that has been around in one incarnation or another since 1982. **DESTINY** plays sort of a Power/True Metal with some Doom and Progressive leanings. The vocalist sounds like that dude from OVERKILL if he sang this type of Metal. This sounds like something that should have been released years ago. This is not a bad thing to me but may be a hindrance to others. One thing I found especially odd is that this is being touted as a 1998 release yet it says in the CD booklet that it was recorded in 1995...? Also what's this band's fascination with chess? The CD cover is a chessboard and the band members are playing it through out the booklet. I guess it's supposed to make them look smart. Yeah, they look smart but they also look old. I think one of them is my Grandpa! Gramps is that you? This is something I would pick up used. Pure average Metal! Contact: **Black Sun Records** P.O. Box 129 S-401 22 Gothenburg, Sweden

DESTINY'S END

Breathe Deep the Dark **Metal Blade**

First of all what is up with all these panoramic, purple covers Metal Blade seems to be putting on their current releases? Purple haze aside, I was looking forward to hearing this as it features James Rivera on vocals. James was formerly with the memorable HELSTAR. **DESTINY'S END** is Power Metal meets Thrash with melodic vocals! Certifiably headbangable! I don't have my old ATROPHY records in front of me as I write this but I swear some of that band is part of this one. This is not a problem with me because I loved them and they were always good for a spin. There are a shitload of great riffs present and there is plenty of double-bass kickin'! If you were born in the late 60's or early 70's you'll love this, and if you weren't your stupid not to. Good shit! Some people say enough of this 80's revival. I say bring it on! I can listen to this stuff all day. Bonus: This was even produced by the classic Bill Metoyer

BRUCE DICKINSON

The Chemical Wedding **CMC**

I have to face facts that no matter what Bruce puts out, I will buy it just the same. He is one of my favorite vocalists of all time. I couldn't even wait until CMC sent me this, even though I knew it was on the way. After about a dozen spins of this disc I've come to a conclusion. ***The Chemical Wedding*** jams hard and it's the heaviest product that Bruce has ever put out. It doesn't top ***Accident At Birth***, though. ***Accident At Birth*** was so awesome that I knew it would probably be impossible. That doesn't stop the fact that this is an incredible record. Definitely 100 times better than the new Maiden. Bruce sings his balls blue on here and Adrian is in top notch form as well if you wouldn't have known that much already. So where ***Accident At Birth*** was a solid 10, ***The Chemical Wedding*** is a solid 8. Support Bruce because uhhh... because he's Bruce dammit! Make sure you spin this a few times before judging. At first listen I was really disappointed, but after countless spins the magic invokes thee!!!

DIMMU BORGIR

Godless Savage Garden **Nuclear Blast**

Just a teaser of great things to come! ***Godless Savage Garden*** features two re-recorded tracks from ***For All Tid***, two new studio songs and three live songs. It is apparent from the live tracks that this is no "Poser" Black Metal band. They simply crush live!!! All other tunes are mega cool as well. The style is a mixture of smashing brutality, elegant keyboards and riffs guaranteed to surge through your inner soul. Also I give this band a swollen thumbs up for covering the ACCEPT classic track "Metal Heart." After all the crap this band hears from obviously jealous folks it's a great "Fuck off, we don't care what you think!!" salute. This is simply talented and well executed Black Metal!

THE DINER JUNKIES

Strange Girls **Cyber Records**

Hey, I used to be a Diner Junkie. Yup, staying awake drinking coffee after a sickly, long ass night of drinking. You sit around eating shit that's terrible for you after already punishing my body beyond repair from drinking and smoking. So, I would stay awake and get no sleep for the next day. I've probably shortened my life a good ten years by doing this. To tell you the truth I don't have much to say about this band other than that are a decent Melodic Rock band. They kick ass on a couple of the tunes in the style of Guns N' Roses. They should stick more to that style although their ballad-y numbers aren't half bad. This is pretty decent but won't make my top ten list. It doesn't leave a mark on me one way or another. I think this could be really good Camp music. Something you could listen to in your bunk on a hot summer day while you space out and avoid the heat. Contact: **Cyber Records** 611 South Frederic Avenue, Gaithersburg, MD 20877 USA Tel: (888)PIK-CYBER Fax: (301)948-7111
E-Mail:dinerjunkies@cyberrecords.com Web: www.cyberrecords.com

DREAM THEATER

Once In A Lifetime **Elektra**

If you love **DREAM THEATER** then this is a Golden opportunity to spend some quality hours with them. If you've just heard about them and want to check them out then don't start here. Why not you ask? It's because this release, as wonderful as it is, is to friggin' long!!! With 23 tracks on two CD's, it's just a bit much. I love concerts but the worst thing a band can do is to play too long. It's overkill (not the band). Even my favorite bands are over-staying their welcome after a comfortable hour to an hour-and-a-half. For a thinking man's band such as this, the concert seems to play on for eternity. The band is brilliant on here but I believe even they are getting bored as some of their songs turn into Skynyrd jams or Close Encounters of The Third Kind. If you like talented, progressive bands with passionate clean vocals check out 1992's ***Images and Words*** instead of this "Titanic" length borefest. For rabid fans only!!!

EARTH CRISIS

Breed The Killers **Roadrunner Records**

This is another reason why the Ozzfest has been stinkin' as of late. Where does Ozzy find these shitty bands to tour with? It seems that this band wants to be known more for their lyrics than their music. I guess I'm shit out of luck! The music is boring Hardcore with both awful and undecipherable vocals and I received no lyric sheet. With all respect to the physically-challenged, vocalist Karl Buechner sounds like a mentally retarded man screaming. Hearing him makes this totally predictable CD even worse. If your interested in whatever these guys are speaking about then I would chat with them online or got to the library. Don't waste your money on these guys unless your a fan of Jerry's Kids or the Special Olympics!

ELECTRIC SHEEP

First Stage ***Demo***

I know that the Japanese spend more hours in school than we do but do they take required Metal classes there? It seems every band from this Country rules in some capacity. Even if you can believe that from a band that calls themselves **ELECTRIC SHEEP**. Although I have no actual idea of how old these Sheepsters are but I can tell you they have been at it for a while. This band plays like persons familiar with their instruments, not just learning them. **ELECTRIC SHEEP** are true professionals. **ELECTRIC SHEEP**'s sound is rooted primarily in the Hard Rock of the 1970's. **ELECTRIC SHEEP** is also heavily influenced by ALCATRAZZ, YNGWIE and if you can believe it, EUROPE! Now, I'm not talking about the land mass known as Europe but the MTV pretty boy band of the late 80's! C'mon, you know you won't admit to it but we all sung along to "The Final Countdown" and "Cherokee" didn't we? Am I alone on this? Hey, is this thing on? The CD is awesome!! Absolutely filler-less material! Churned into this mix are almost miniscule amounts of 90's Rock which updates the music just a bit without yanking from the retro-vibe. Oh, by the way, the name **ELECTRIC SHEEP** comes from Philip K. Dick's Science-Fiction novel "Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep?" Haven't we all read that? Anybody? Hello...Bueller? Bueller? This CD is available for $15 Worldwide. Contact: **N. Moroishi** 3-18-7 Chuo Nakano-Ku, Tokyo, Japan 164-0011 E-Mail: nick@marinet.or.jp

This doesn't look like the Metal Fest that I went to -Jeremy

EVERGREY

The Dark Discovery **Black Sun**

Finally!! A production job from Andy La Rocque that doesn't stink! I guess he's finally getting the knack of producing. **EVERGREY** plays nice Power Metal and likes to sing about the occult. That's not exactly the most original subject to cover but "What the Hell!?" "Hell," get it? What makes **EVERGREY** stand out from the sea of Power Metal bands is that their's is a more of a crunch effect and the sound is darker. I'm also glad to see that this band has their own sound and not just another band from Sweden with the so called "Swedish Sound." The vocals are more Hard Rock oriented than Metal which is a pleasant change of pace from the normal grunt, squeal or shriek. Spoken words also punctuate the proceedings with great effect. Even some decent piano playing is thrown in for good measure. Real nice CD booklet as well. The cover art reminds me of some of the obscure Metal bands of the 80's. A swell package through and through. Contact: Black Sun P.O. Box 129 S-401, Gothenburg, Sweden

FATES WARNING

Still Life **Metal Blade**

You know when you're a teenager you devise some unethical ways of getting laid? Some of us still do. When my friend and I were in our teens, we contrived a plan to pretend to be in a Metal band. Now, this would get us laid. The band we pretended to be in was **FATES WARNING**. Why **FATES WARNING**, you ask? Well, at the time only a few people had heard of them, their picture wasn't in their CD, so, who would question it? One day we were "totally in" with these blonde babes when this other guy by the pool walked over to us. It seems that he had overheard our conversation and had something in common with us. We were on Metal Blade and he worked at Metal Blade. Fuuuuccckk...He asked us if we had been at the BITCH party that he had recently attended. We said "Yeah, we were in and out." It was on that day we no longer pretended to be **FATES WARNING**. We then became a part of METALLICA. Anyway, **FATES WARNING** has basically turned into a boring ass, Progressive Metal band that has the gall to release an album that consisted of one gigantic pompous song. One fuckin' song! Ughhh... Well on "Still Life", the first of the two CD's, in this set is that one long ass song. The 2nd CD has some pretty cool stuff on it from when I was still in the band. You remember when they used to Rock and sound like QUEENSRYCHE/MAIDEN clones, right? I do. They were killer then. Of course this is back when QUEENSRYCHE and MAIDEN sounded like themselves and not those lame bands currently using their names. I'm going to stop this here because this review is becoming even more confusing than **FATES WARNING**'s last studio album.

FINNEGANS WAKE

An Airy Site ***Demo***

Here's another case where the band was concerned that I would hate this immediately knowing that it wasn't Metal. I assured them that I would make a fair and partial decision. **FINNEGANS WAKE**, in general, is a band that plays mellow and relaxing folksy-like Goth music. The music itself is calm, serene and full of interesting spots including the use of Life Bagpipes. It seems they play quite a few gigs with Metal bands such as FROM THY ASHES, which from whom I got info on this eclectic band. What I found funny was that half of this tape finds the band Rockin' out quite a bit. If it wasn't for the Lilithian vocals and the way the guitar is tuned, it would be most decidely Metal. Markus and Michael (The Guitarists) really jam out at the end. **FINNEGANS WAKE** are really different and it was a pleasant change of pace for Old Jeffy. Buy this for your lady or just get spiritual baby! CD is available for only $8 Worldwide. Contact: **FINNEGANS WAKE** C/O Michael Wrzaczek, Hauptstrabe 30, A-2560 Berndoff II, Osterreich, Germany E-Mail: finnegan-swake@swi.ml.org

FORGE

DeCloaking

Static Records

FORGE calls what they do Future Rock. What I would like to refer to it as would be crappy Dance Rock. If they play this at a club all the trendy fuckers won't even know how to dance to this dribble. **FORGE** is garbage, pure and simple. Wait till you hear the stupid vocals that are on here. There are three guys in this band consisting of two cousins and a long time buddy. Great. Even the cousins have stupid haircuts. I think I might have heard one good moment on this CD or maybe I just passed out while listening to it and dreamt it? Contact: **Static Records** 17215 Mack Avenue, Detroit, MI 48224 USA Phone(313)886-7860 Fax(313)886-7861 • Web: www.detroitmusic.com/static E-Mail: Suestatic@aol.com

FROM THY ASHES

One With The Waves ***Demo***

I really looked forward to hearing this. I loved their last demo *Tralfamadore*. I criticized their last demo because of the vocals. They were strongly reminiscent of Froggy formerly of The Little Rascals. I received a funny letter from the old singer Sebastian (who still plays guitar for the band) commenting about how everybody calls him Froggy now because of me. Now they have a new singer and guess what? I miss Froggy! They must have found their new singer in Seattle because he sounds just like a Grunge singer. Yuck! The music has changed as well. While it used to be fascinating and awe-inspiring it is now just another average Metal record brought down with the shitty Grunge vocals. Also, there was something else that bothered me. What was up with the bass playing? It sounds as if it was added at a later date. It doesn't fit with what is playing at all. This is truly disappointing from what I thought was a truly promising band. CD is 13 DM. Contact them for the price in your currency. Buy their first demo instead. Contact: **FROM THY ASHES** C/O Sebastian Schult, Geissberg 13, D-71334 Waiblingen, Germany Web: www.fhd-stuttgart.de/~mt04

GALACTIC COWBOYS

At The End Of The Day **Metal Blade**

At first listening I thought to myself "Here's another KINGS X rip-off" (Coincidentally they are opening for them on tour). But there's much more to these guys although they do sound very similar. First of all these guys are very goofy! It's a good goofiness though! This is a case where the joke doesn't overpower the music. In most cases once the joke is over then the song is no longer appealing. This is not the case. **GALACTIC COWBOYS** play great Melodic Rock/Metal with Beatlesque melodies. Although they're very poppy they're also very catchy and pretty Heavy. Sometimes they are even Punky! An interesting and fun concept on here was the seven song medley "The Machine Fish Suite." It's epic hilarity as you hear the bands tumultuous history with the music industry. If you like happy, fun music then check this out. Skip everybody, skip! Wheeee!!!

GILLAN

The Japanese Album **Cleopatra**

This album was a hard-to-find import that was released 20 years ago. Now it has been re-released for your listening pleasure complete with some bonus material. Most of you should be aware of this incredible singer who has logged time with DEEP PURPLE and BLACK SABBATH among other bands. For God's sake (literally) he was even Jesus Christ himself for "Jesus Christ Superstar." Ian possesses one of the most unique voices in all of Heavy music. It's likely if you're a fan of DEEP PURPLE then you will truly treasure this unique recording as it is very Purplish. This is full of great songs and only a few "tossaways." ***The Japanese album*** is a delightful addition to anyone's musical library.

Jeff takes the time to get a picture with Cannibal Corpse...?

GOTHIX SEX

Laments **Repulse**

Alright, this should rule! But, it doesn't. With this really cool cover art and name, this should be music that really grabs you. (In a somewhat pleasing way.) Basically what it is , is upbeat, Gothic Doom. Isn't that the opposite of the effect it's supposed to have? I wouldn't put this on the **Metal Rules!** crap list because it's not horrid. I've heard this before and I've heard better. ***Laments*** is an average CD for poser Goths who secretly crave a little fun. Good for you, you pasty-faced geeks! Note: live, this band dramatizes gore, sex and sadomasochism. I guess they are obviously capitalizing on the fact that their music alone won't captivate the audience. Contact: **Repulse Records** P.O. Box 50562, 28080-Madrid, Spain Tel: +34 91 522 56 36 Fax: +34 91 531 11 22 • E-Mail: repulse@arsys.es

GOTTERDAMMERUNG

Sturmgott ***Demo***

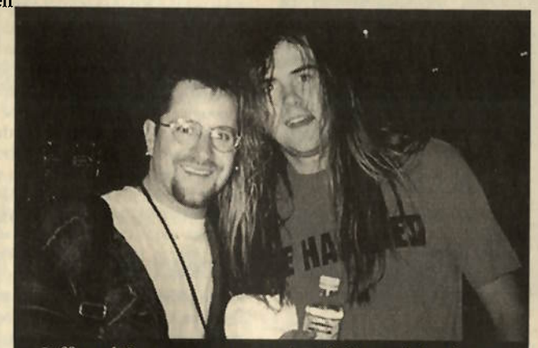
In their flyers they state: "Take Death Metal. Take Thrash Metal. Mix them. Add a drum machine and pitchshifter and you get **GOTTERDAMMERUNG**." Actual what you really get is the worst fucking tape I've ever heard in my life! It was only by the will of the gods that I was able to listen to this entire tape once. This is beyond bad. This is a one man project which in most cases doesn't work. In this case it was like bamboo-shoots-under-the-fingernails-bad! I'd rather have electrodes strapped to my nut-sac than hear this again. If anybody orders this cassette full of the worst music you have ever heard then congratulate yourself because you are a complete fuckin' moron. Cassette is 10 DM/$6 USA Contact: **Werner Nyar Linke**, Klopp 4, 55471 Franhofen, Germany

THE GREAT KAT

Bloody Vivaldi

TPR Music

A magnificent mix of extreme brilliance and utter crap. I think this is like $10 or something? Contact: **Kat Slave Club** P.O. Box 20554 Columbus Circle Station, NY, NY 10023 USA E-Mail: greatkat@greatkat.com Web: www.greatkat.com Phone: (212)799-9392



Jeff and Barney...you can't tell from this picture but, confidentially Barney is wearing an orange shirt, red shorts and black socks...weird!

GRIMEGOD

The Darkside (Pain in Another Dimension) **Bestial Records**

Huh? Are these guys trying some kind of a concept or what? Yuck! If you're into crooning, machine-like, static-y guitars and an irresponsible drum machine, then you'll love this. The vocals of Tibor are the only high point on here as the rest of the band seem to miss the mark. There are a nice set of tits on the inside cassette jacket if that's any kind of consolation prize for you. Actually I did like the first song but lost interest immediately after. Contact: **Bestial Records** Str.Caras nr 8, 1900 Timisoara, Romania E-Mail: bestialr@banat.ro

HAIR OF THE DOG

Sepetys Entertainment Group

I heard about this band eons ago and thought "Yuck, what a dumb name!" I hate when bands name themselves after songs from other bands. You always pigeonhole yourself when you do that. I avoided seeing them and really thought "Who cares?" What a surprise when I received their CD from their manager. **HAIR OF THE DOG**'s manager also manages STEVE VAI. She was so impressed by the STEVE VAI interview that I did that she sent me **HAIR OF THE DOG** for review. I shuddered and thought "Now, STEVE VAI and I won't be best friends any more, after I end up hating **HAIR OF THE DOG**, Waaahhhhh..." I put it on and WOW, **HAIR OF THE DOG** rocked! If you miss the feeling of just some real heavy and good old fashioned drinking and driving Rock N' Roll, **HAIR OF THE DOG** is the ticket. From the opening track to the end, it's good times, good bands and cheap beer! The guitars are loud, the vocals are whiskey-soaked and the drumming is in control. If DANGEROUS TOYS, RAGING SLAB or the great TED NUGENT are your thing then let **HAIR OF THE DOG** into your life! Perfect party music or just some tunes to uplift a troubled soul. Awwwww...I bet they're blushing.

H.A.T.E.(HOSTILE ATTITUDE TOWARDS EVERYTHING)

Two Wrongs Make A Right ***Demo***

Hell yea! I agree with that. I knew this would be decent because it was sent by my buddy Phil of Brutalized fame! Like I've said before, Phil knows his Death Metal. He also recommended GRAPHIC VIOLENCE to me and they rule as well. **H.A.T.E.** reminds me of TON without the DECIDE parts and actual song structures worked in. So what **H.A.T.E.** basically sounds like is a heavier PANTERA without stupid psychotic sections that PANTERA throw in just to be hard. They also have better vocals with a greater variety of sounds. **H.A.T.E.** is full of tons of heavy riffs and brutal vocals. I also detect a bit of a CANNIBAL CORPSE influence. **H.A.T.E.** are treading on grounds previously tread upon but the treading is leaving treadmarks on my fuckin' scalp! I picture these guys to be even more killer live. They put a lot of work into this especially evident with the "The Trial" which has like 3 pages of lyrics! Hey, these guys are from my area. Why the hell haven't I heard of them? This will make you want to break shit! Note: The CD closes with un-creative vomiting. For creative vomiting check out ***Jack Daniels and Pizza*** from CARNIVORE! Contact: **H.A.T.E.** C/O Raymond Shultz 129 Pine Lane, Fleetwood, PA 19522 USA Phone: (610)944-7169 Fax: (610)944-7142 E-Mail: GKUASA@aol.com

HOLY MOTHER

Toxic Rain **ABS Records**

This band was recommended to me by my friend John Ridge of Underground Zine Scene and Rock The Nation fame! He knows me way to well!!! **HOLY MOTHER** rules! Except for their stupid name I can find no fault with the band. From the JUDAS PRIEST-ish cover to the actual music, it is Metal perfection the whole way! Soundwise they are a pleasant mixture of old and new. JUDAS PRIEST, VICIOUS RUMORS, PRIMAL FEAR, ACCEPT, TT QUICK and DIO are influences that seem to be apparent to these ears. The CD is one raging balls-to-the-rim cannonball from Hades! The drums are double bassing, the guitars are wailing and the vocals are screaming for vengeance! How in the name of all that's Holy (Mother) don't these geniuses have a record deal in America? America's loss is Germany's gain! I even forgive them for doing the cliche cover of JUDAS PRIEST's "You Got Another Thing Comin'" because it's done to perfection. Also included in this re-release of ***Toxic Rain*** (The first batch sold out in Europe!) is a free full-length CD sampler of other cool bands on the **ABS Records** label. It features 3 Demo versions of **HOLY MOTHER** songs from their next upcoming CD, a couple of un-released tracks from ***Toxic Rain*** and a dozen other cool bands! Power Metal, True Metal and Classical Metal fans should not be without this! **HOLY MOTHER** are another one of those bands that are the reason Metal still stands proud! CD is $12 Worldwide! Contact: **HOLY MOTHER** 27 Winston Road, Centereach, NY 11720 USA E-Mail: dbtmusic@erols.com
European Contact: **Crazy Life For Music** P.O. Box 220211 45067 Essen, Germany • E-Mail: promotion@clm.de

INHUMAN

Foreshadow **Unia Lisboa V**

As much as I tried to enjoy this CD it just didn't work out that way. The members of **INHUMAN** all play their prospective instruments well, they just play them dully. **INHUMAN** are a Metal-lover's sleeping pill. Imagine FAITH NO MORE with no twists, turns or decent vocals and you have a pretty good idea of what **INHUMAN** sounds like. Damn, my first band from Portugal and it stinks. It's ironic though. The only other contact I've had from Portugal was my ex-stepfather. He was Portugese. He was also an asshole and he liked to eat this really foul soup that my mother made for him! I would rather eat that stinky soup and hang out with him than listen to this again. If that shining review has won you over then you can contact them at: **Uniao Lisboa V**, Casa Alvorada, Av., D O Brasil 30-2750 Cascais, Portugal E-Mail: unialisboa@mail.telepac.pt Web: www.rjw.pt/uniaolisboa

IN RUINS

Four Seasons Of Grey **Metal Blade**

How can there be so many evil bastards in this area? I've lived here for 19 years and I'm quite a cheery lad. **IN RUINS** plays their evil Metal which varies with each song. The first song is a depressing and shitty doom-y type number. It irritates the piss out of me because I've been lucky enough before this to only listen to fine bands on this day. On the 2nd tune they pick up the pace a little but it's still pretty crappy.

Third song in is a boring acoustic tickle. Who cares? Fourth song is a mid-paced number that doesn't suck. Fifth song features some below-average Black Metal. Sixth song has some Medieval crappy intro before you get some slow-assed crawling Metal. Seventh tune you get crappy fast-paced mixed with crappy slow-paced! Eighth is a boring outro. This CD sucks! Why did I write about each song? What a waste of paper and time.

JAG PANZER

The Age Of Mastery **Century Media**

I feel like I just reviewed their last album. Oh yeah, I did. It was only 3 issues ago. When I first received this I figured it would be crap. How could they release another album so soon, when there was an unusually long span of time between previous album releases? I'm not sure if these songs have been sitting around or not but they're great. I can't believe they've released such a classy, melodic Power Metal album as good or better as the last one in a such a short period of time! Everything is here, great dual guitar work, galloping bass, pure rhythmic drumming and of course the incredibly powerful and original vocals of Harry "The Tyrant" Conklin. Not a dud is found on here and I'm gaily singing along to most of the tracks. Fans of melodic Power Metal don't miss this! Hey, and only 359 (depending when you read this the count may be different-Jeff) days for a new album to go! In the meantime enjoy the old fashioned Medieval vibe of this bad boy!

KAMIKAZE BUTTERFLY

Blind Sided Orange **Hard Knock Records**

I avoided reviewing this for a month too long because I thought it would blow aardvark ass! It doesn't, but if it did, I would want to watch! **KAMIKAZE BUTTERFLY** is a hit-and-miss affair. Some of the tunes on here are great 90's Metal. They are most similar to the sound of WHITE ZOMBIE, although **KAMIKAZE BUTTERFLY** is better. Instead of completely computerizing his voice, vocalist Gary Polley only partially does and instead of playing what seems to be looped samples they actually are playing. When this band is on, they are on! Unfortunately about 1/4 of this CD is filler. If only they would have made this a MCD. It would have crushed! The other problem with this, is that at the end of the CD they give us a bonus track. Haven't we learned by now that a bonus track is always bad news? Here we go again. This bonus track features the band carousing and laughing over some inside joke. Ha ha! But we don't get it. Your friends may have gotten a big kick out of it but they get this for free! How about the paying motherfuckers?! How about a joke for them?! If they would have ended the CD after the last tune it would have been a wiser move. **KAMIKAZE BUTTERFLY** has its moments but it's still rough around the edges. Contact: **KAMIKAZE BUTTERFLY** C/O Dennis Williams P.O. Box 346049, Chicago, IL 60634 USA Phone# (312)458-0564 Web: www.bandfinder.com or Hard Knock Records P.O. Box 8491 Madison, WI 53708 USA Phone#(608)242-7359 Fax#(608)242-1434 ***Blind Sided Orange*** is available for only $10 (worldwide) and their 1996 EP ***Dreaming Pure Noise*** is only $6 (worldwide)

TIM KARR

Everybody Bleeds ***Demo***

Huh? That was my response when I first put this CD on. Why? Well, the answer is the CD refused to play. I took it out and it had a pea sized chunk of glue on it. I couldn't get it off, so I contacted Tim for another. I think he believes I was scheming him to get another CD but now he knows the truth. Tim has released a different kind of CD. No, it's not weird or something like that. It's just a nice old-fashioned Rock CD with a slight bit of Blues and Country added to it. His voice is a mixture of Bon Jovi and Duff McKagen mixed with a slight British twang. Some very different influences are apparent on here. For example imagine if Bon Jovi and Roger Waters wrote a song together. It would sound like the song "The Drifter." Ironically Roger Waters released an incredible album called *The Pros and Cons of Hitchhiking*. See the similarity here? Hitchhiking...drifter...am I fuckin' Einstein or what? ***Everybody Bleeds*** is mostly full of ballads but Tim's voice is pleasant enough to carry you through it. There are some nice female backup vocals on some tracks as well. Tim's not going to set the world on fire with this release but if you enjoy this kind of music then it's a worthy enough purchase. This a CD that makes you feel warm and happy and even causes you to sing along! Contact: **TIM KARR** 7510 Sunset Boulevard #208 Los Angeles, CA 90046 USA E-Mail: tk@timkarr.com Web: www.timkarr.com

KIDNEY THIEVES

Push Records

The **KIDNEY THIEVES** logo and name are based on some crazy shit! Did you know there are cases where people have been drugged with roofies and had their kidneys stolen? That sucks, in fact that really sucks! The music was influenced by NINE INCH NAILS, MARILYN MANSON and FILTER. Personally I'd rather listen to the aforementioned bands than this. If you know my tastes than you know I wasn't so crazy about this. If you like typical, aggressive-female singing with pulsing sounds and dentist drills all being played by a programmer then this is for you. Me? I'm completely uninterested but I'd like to hear more about the real **KIDNEY THIEVES**. Now that would be a fascinating interview. Wouldn't it?

KORN

Follow The Leader **Epic**

Lots of you out there in Metal land say that **KORN** is not Metal! Well you're crazy. **KORN** rages harder than many other bands that you would consider heavy and do it with conviction. Like it or not **KORN** has started a whole new genre in Metal. **KORN** has a very original sound and that's what made their debut so magical. Sure, there are shades of FAITH NO MORE and others present, you could try to pick it to pieces, but why? All bands are influenced by something, and that's a fact! **KORN** followed up their incredible S/T debut with the lousy *Life Is Peachy*. Even **KORN** themselves will admit that it wasn't their finest hour. Now we have ***Follow The Leader***. Truth or consequences time: **KORN** delivered a new CD that has many great moments and plenty of space wasted by an abundance of guest appearances. The strongest tunes on here are the one's devoid of any cameos. Guest-starring on here are ICE CUBE, Fred Durst of LIMP BIZKIT, Tre Hardson from PHARACYDE and Cheech Marin on the Cheech and Chong classic "Earache My Eye." I could give a donkey's ass about the PHARACYDE or Korn-Clones LIMP BIZKIT, but boy was I disappointed with the uninspired ICE CUBE guest- appearance. This instantly forgettable number brings back equally painful memories of **KORN**'s pathetic cover of ICE CUBE's "Wicked," which they performed on *Life Is Peachy*. As for covering "Earache My Eye" it's been done and done better by SCATTERBRAIN. **KORN** seems to find tunes to cover that have been raped way too many times before. Need another example? How about "Low Rider" from *Life Is Peachy*. C'mon...who needs another cover of that song? What's next "Louie Louie?" As for the rest of the CD, it rocks hard and reminds me greatly of their debut. If you loved the first record, you'll dig this, but have your CD remote handy so you can skip the lame guests. Also experience some of the best and most prominent bass work in Metal since Steve Harris. Question of the day: whose dumb ass and annoying idea was it to start this CD at track 13?

KRISSTEEN

Poptown Records

What do you do when you review a band called **KRISSTEEN** and after listening to it 2 or 3 times: you look inside the press pack and realize the singer is a male? I thought it was a woman, dammit! How embarrassing. No, not for me, for him! **KRISSTEEN** plays what I like to call Corny Metal. No, not the band reviewed above. Check my spelling dammit! I mean corny as in cheesy! This sounds like a soundtrack to a really bad horror movie or maybe a porno movie about a fake rock band that resembles MARILYN MANSON. They even steal the music from "A Clockwork Orange" for spook effect that doesn't seem to work. This is Pop Metal ala MARILYN MANSON so you know it's shit. Some of this is catchy but then again so are Mentos commercials. If you are a collector of poppy bullshit Metal or porno soundtracks, then this is for you. Note: I think the vocalist needs money for a sex change operation so help him out. Contact: **KRISSTEEN** P.O. Box 51 Lincolndale, NY 10540 USA • E-Mail: poptown@aol.com

LABYRINTH

Return To Heaven Denied **Metal Blade**

Ow!!! My head hurts. I just fainted and cracked it on the floor. I couldn't help it, I was just bowled over at how incredible **LABYRINTH** is. Take the best of all your favorite Power/Progressive bands and mix them up in a pot and you have **LABYRINTH**! This is simply awe-inspiring Metal! It's a Power symphony to the ears! Did I mention the sound? Crisp, man. Real damn crisp. Ready-to-snap-in-two crisp! These songs are crafted by masters. Musically, this is extremely volatile, sometimes incredibly quick in some spots, and always beauty to the ears. The vocal prowess of Rob Tyrant is not to be denied! You're not even going to believe the guitar work on here. It's a damn shame that this kind of Metal is barely recognized in the States. My chance of seeing **LABYRINTH** or another awesome band that I reviewed recently, VIGILANTE, is nil. Why can't radio stations play stuff like this? If people could hear it, they would love it! I've been playing this in the store that I work in a lot and everybody that hears it, inquires about it. This is Majestic Metal at it's finest! Buy it now or I'll tear your nipples off with a Ethiopian Mongoose's fore claws! Recently it came to my attention that the pizza is really lousy in Italy. Well, the Power Metal is quite grand! Why did I write that? I could have just left off with nipples, but no, I had to keep going! Sorry... ABBONDGAZA!

LIFELESS

Forward To Suffering ***Demo***

Lifeless is a one man project. I have to wonder why these people do this? The only one-man band I really enjoyed was the last ANNIHILATOR CD, and that was primarily Jeff Waters alone doing everything. Oh yeah, and Box Car Willie. Most of the time it's pretty dismal. In the case of **LIFELESS** it's fair but instantly forgettable. Picture a slower CORONER with more Deathly vocals and a drum machine and you have the core of **LIFELESS**. I'm not even going to say anything about the name of this project or the CD title because he's made himself too much of a target from my typically smart-ass writings! So fill in your blanks where they belong. **LIFELESS** is what this band is...etc., etc. There, I did it, but it's only because I know that you fuckers aren't as clever as me. Marc Kieffer, the leader of this one-man outfit (Leader Of Himself), said he's the only performer and it's no easy job. I know that. So, why do you do it? Form a band you ego maniac. For pricing and a list of other CD's contact: **M Sound Records** C/O Marc Kieffer 26, rue principale L-8560 ROODT/REDANGE Luxembourg

LOST SOULS

Fracture **Nuclear Blast**

What do you get when you mix KORN with MACHINE HEAD? The answer is a band called **LOST SOULS** who aren't even half as good as either of the aforementioned bands. If you're going to recycle simple riffs at least try to put some life into them. This is totally uninspiring, boring Hardcore/Metal. You've heard it before and it's been done much better. Well, I guess every label needs one of these clone type bands. Why does **LOST SOULS** try to cop an L.A. sound anyway? They're from Sweden for christsake. Don't you think they should be on ENTOMBED's tip? Oh yeah, KORN is more popular.

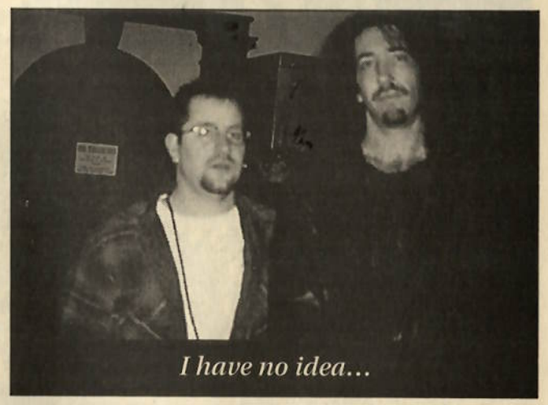
LUXX

Push Records

Any CD with a sexy, pierced, female belly button for a cover has to be somewhat decent right? At first listen I didn't like this. I'm a fair reviewer so I ate shit and gave it a few more listens. I'm glad I did because although this isn't my favorite CD of the year, it still has its merit. **LUXX** is fronted by a sexy female with a powerful voice. She is the one known as Katrina Chester. Didn't this chick front THE WAVES at one point? The band also features guitarist Ian Hutton who has played with both BONHAM and THE HONEYDRIPPERS. That would explain the heavy ZEPPELIN influence. C'mon if you hung out with Robert and John's son something has got to rub off. Right? If you can imagine ZEPPELIN crossed with Melissa Etheridge crossed with 90's Rock, then you would have a pretty good description of the sound of the act. You know what? You'd better throw in a bag of RED HOT CHILI PEPPERS because their bassist (ex-ULTRAVOX) seems to be somewhat influenced by them. This is definitely one of the better female fronted Hard Rock bands that I've heard.

MADD HUNTER

If you were wondering what Phil Grasso, formerly of STEEL ASSASSIN, was up to, he's now in **MADD HUNTER**. I say that he is **MADD HUNTER** because other than having a drummer, he handles the rest of the vocals and instruments. He should have sung in his old band because he was much better than the clown that they had a-squealin'! **MADD HUNTER** is quite an improvement over that band. Musically it's a cross between old Diano-era MAIDEN and MANOWAR with a touch of SABBATH. It has that retro feel without feeling old. Although this is an improvement, it's still just an average CD. There are fine moments on here but nothing really generates my head beyond a gentle bob. Maybe if Phil got a real band instead of trying to tackle everything himself then it would be better. Decent but won't get a Metal Grammy. One funny note is sometimes while listening to this I can almost picture this live. The stage is red and smoking. Do you care? Oh well... CD is $15 Worldwide contact: **CME DISTRIBUTION** C/O Phil Grasso 319 Centre Ave, Suite 175, Rockland, MA 02370 USA



I have no idea...

MASS PSYCHOSIS

Necroporno **Still Dead Productions**

I've seen this great cover art all over the Underground! Who can resist a zombie with big breasts? Certainly not me. What I find most humorous about this is that they are from NJ and their label is in Poland. The band could have walked this Promo over to my house faster than having it mailed all the way from Poland. **MASS PSYCHOSIS** is pure chaos. It features a crazy group of vocals, shredding fretwork, bass work ala SADUS and, of course, fast drumming. **MASS PSYCHOSIS** is best described as Grindcore but that doesn't exactly cover it. As in the case with many bands of this style, the only downfall to this CD is that there are no real songs. Most of the songs are just insane jam sessions. If your not a fan of actual song structure that is o.k. but if you are, you might be pissed and quite confused. Mixed into all this insanity is some Class-A guitar pieces that sort of remind me of Alex Skolnik during the early TESTAMENT records. If you love sick, delirious Metal

verging on Armageddon than get a piece of *Necroporno*. *Necroporno* is available for only $12 Worldwide and they have other releases for sale as well. Band contact: **MASS PSYCHOSIS** C/O Doug Grandon P.O. Box 267 Keyport, NJ 07735 USA Label Contact: Still Dead Productions C/O Julius Polczynski 03-933 Warsaw, ul. Obroncow 2A, Poland

PINO MATTIOLI
Pre-Production Cassette

Somebody get this boy a band quick! At age 15 Pino started playing his guitar in his native Rome, Italy. Now two decades later, you can hear the results. In his early years he was into Rock and Blues. Later, after taking Jazz lessons and learning harmony and theory he combined his knowledge to develop a style all his own. Musically, if you like listening to the guitar then Pino will take you on a ride. From Satriani-esque licks to very Rock/Fusionish style playing, it's a pleasant journey all the way. He's quick, clean and he's classy. Pino needs to find some bandmates and a first rate singer to compliment his style. This is good background music but eventually no matter how good it is, it will eventually wear out it's welcome without vocals. Pino is reworking these songs along with 6 New ones to release a self-financed CD very soon. Contact: **PINO MATTIOLI**, V. Crucioli 43, 63013 Grottammare (AP) Italy E-Mail: pinomat@jth.it

Jeff and Dale from Canadian Assault Zine

MECHANIX
Mindfucked — ***Demo***

You take a big risk in the music industry when you name yourself after a song by a group that you worship. **MECHANIX** does just that with their obvious enthusiasm towards old Megadeth. Musically, they play adequately interesting Thrash but the vocals are weak. Imagine Dave Mustaine with no balls and no retarded slurring of his words, which he does so uniquely, and there you have it. **MECHANIX** would be a fair MEGADETH tribute band if there was a call for such a thing. In the meantime they need to work more on originality in order to be taken seriously. Contact: **MECHANIX** C/O Wolf Reinish P.O. Box 25 03 23, 90128 Nurnberg, Germany Phone/Fax: 49-911-581 7898

METHOD 51
PC Music

METHOD 51 is a very 90's band. The influences are apparent and they wear them on their sleeve. You'll hear some PANTERA, WHITE ZOMBIE, KORN, MACHINE HEAD, DEFTONES, blah...blah...blah... You know where I'm going with this. **METHOD 51** are not doing anything that hasn't been done before. **METHOD 51** isn't original at all. BUT **METHOD 51** is good, damn good, at what they do! If you like the aforementioned bands then you're sure to dig this. I don't even mind the Rap-Core vocals because they're way powerful and convincing. I recommend this to you instead of STUCK MOJO. What is all this fuss over STUCK MOJO? I don't know, but you'll definitely dig **METHOD 51** more; powerful, simple, raging Metal! Works for me. Not homogenized like ULTRASPANK, this will rock you! I really wish white guys would stop wearing dreads though, it looks really stupid. Actually, it looks stupid on black dudes too. When was it a cool idea not to wash your hair? Contact: **PC MUSIC** 711 8th Ave., San Diego, CA 92101 USA Phone#(619)236-0187 • E-Mail: Freak@pcFreaks.com

MUNDANUS IMPERIUM
The Spectral Spheres Of Coronation — **Nuclear Blast**

As good as this should be, and is, I just can't relate. It's an interesting mix of Classical, Rock, True Metal and even a tad of Thrash. The music is accentuated with Classic elements. The vocals, which they consider DIO-esque, sound a lot closer to DAVID COVERDALE. Remember, STEVE VAI told me in Issue #2 that I have to call him "David" not "Dave!" The songs are well crafted; they just don't interest me. I find this really odd because they also have a very heavy RAINBOW influence and I love them. The combination of influences on here work in some places, but on some of the tracks the keyboard sections sound stupid to my ears. In other spots, it's awe-inspiring! All in all, my overall opinion is good but as soon as I finish listening, I've forgotten everything I just heard. I know a lot of work went in to this CD and I can appreciate that but I can't appreciate the actual music. Does this review make any sense?

NIGHT IN GALES
Thunderbeast — **Nuclear Blast**

The buzz has been real good on this band and with good reason. I first heard about these guys from a flyer and when I contacted them they responded to me and told me to contact **Nuclear Blast**. I did just that. There is nothing extremely innovative on here but for what they do, they do it well. What **NIGHT IN GALES** has done is take the best parts of the various genres of Metal (Black, True, Death, NWOBHM, etc) and create an intense amalgam. The vocals are vicious yet decipherable and not too overpowering when played against the melodic mania that ensues. I like the name too. I can just imagine some craggy New-Age woman going "Ooooh...**NIGHT IN GALES**, how pretty!" playing it and then dropping dead of a stroke! This has the **Metal Rules!** seal of approval. Guaranteed Headbangable!!!

NIOBES IVORY DREAM
My Fallen Garden — ***Demo***

This band has a cool name and has quite original CD cover art. The music is unfortunately pretty mediocre. **NIOBES IVORY DREAM** play Doomy Metal that could easily put you to sleep or at some times make you bust out laughing at the vocals. Actually, that's what happened with my wife and I! These are some young guys (the average age is 19), so they have years to improve. The musicianship is fine, the music is just kind of...blaahhh...They come to life in some sections but by then your interest is waned. **NIOBES IVORY DREAM** is mainly a live band, they claim. They have played gigs with a lot of high energy bands like CANNIBAL CORPSE, BENEDICTION and HAMMERFALL and I would think to play with those kind of bands you would need to invoke some kind of life in your music. Maybe they do just that live? If you're a Doom fanatic you might like this, but for me I don't like to be made ready for beddy-bye at this early in the day. This CD is available for $10 Worldwide! Contact: **NIOBES IVORY DREAM** C/O Armin Alic, Loherstr. 8, 42283 Wuppertal, Germany

OBLITERATION
Land Of Suffering — ***Demo***

I found out something today that I was previously unaware of. I have a recording studio in my ass! At least I think I do because that's where it sounds as if this demo was made. As far as the music is concerned I really enjoyed it because it was different. I expected Brutal Death Metal and I got just that - but it sounded like Neil Young. Huh? Jeff please explain. Alright, I will. They use the same fuzzy guitar tone that Neil Young uses. Vocally though, there is a big difference, although neither can sing but I mean that in a good way! What? I'm not explaining this, you know what I mean. Bob Dylan, Neil Young and Dave Mustaine; none can sing but the crowd loves them! Dave Mustaine sings like a drunk retard for christsakes! The tape is not all Brutal Death and even with the terrible tape quality you can still pick up on the fact that this is a decent band. It's catchy and begging for a quality recording! Tape is available for $9 Worldwide. Contact: **OBLITERATION** C/O Fabio Retana P.O. Box 12487-1000, San Jose Costa Rica

ODIUM
The Sad Realm Of The Stars — **Nocturnal Art Productions**

First of all, as much as people like to bitch about the U.S. Postal Service, our system rules! Actually, zip codes rule! Nocturnal Art Productions addressed this package to Voorhees, NK! What the hell is NK? North Kentucky? I'm thankful that I received this because it's the best Black Metal that I've heard in quite some time. This CD was ready for the unsuspecting public way back in 1996 but of course because of delays and conflicts, it had to be pushed back till now. It was worth the wait. **ODIUM** is why Norway receives acclaim as the Black Metal capital of the World. Sechtdamon, Demariel, Charon Martyras, Bastadon (Why you... Bastadon!!!) and Eek play an incredible mix of intense and hyper fast Black Metal with a suprising amount of melody. Eek? Eek? Why is it when I hear his name all I can think of is "Eek, I saw a mouse!" ? Also where's Eek's corpse paint? Always the rebel, aren't you Eek? Light keyboards add an overall finesse to the proceedings. **ODIUM** is an essential purchase for Black Metal fans!!! Europeans contact: **Plastic Head Music Distribution**, Unit 5, Bushell Business State, Hithercroft, Wallingford, Oxon, Ox 9DD, England. Everybody else contact: **Nocturnal Art Productions** P.O. Box 4, 3671 Notodden, Norway • E-mail: eclipse@online.no

Jeff and Jeremy preparing for the Metal Fest...(sigh) note I still don't have a hat!!!

OLD GRANDAD
OGD EP/ San Fran666 CD Bootleg — **Hectic Productions**

When I was about 13 I used to drink Old Grandad from my friend's father's liquor cabinet. It was really cool, it was set up like a real bar with tons of selections. Fortunately, his parents were never around. That left us ample time to have some HOT 12-13 year-old girls over so we could tempt them with alcohol and marijuana and then try to get some booty!!! Most of the girls were at least willing to go to 2nd base with us!!! Fun! Fun! Fun! Ahhhhh...those were the days. **OLD GRANDAD** (the band) harkens me back to yesteryear because the music of **OLD GRANDAD** leaves the same feeling in me as Old Grandad the whiskey! Yes, it makes me hyper, nervous, ballsy, excited and quite nauseous! Most of **OLD GRANDAD** is a lot of fun. Sometimes they sound like STUCK MOJO on acid, sometimes like JIMI HENDRIX in a Death Metal band or BLACK SABBATH under the influence of crystal meth. This band really does defy description, that's what makes them special!!! Psychedelic Rock meets Death Metal. Pretty cool. I think I'll stick to listening to the studio parts of this CD. The Live parts are where my nauseous memories of Old Grandad come from. Contact: **Hectic Productions** P.O. Box 401122, San Francisco, CA 94140-1122 USA • E-Mail: hectic@hectic.com Web address: www.hectic.com

OPETH
Orchids, Your Hearse — **Century Media**

In their bio it states **OPETH** has successfully managed to meld Death and Black Metal with influences as diverse as Progressive Rock, Additional Metal, Classical and even Jazz. Yes, that is in fact true. The band is compromised of excellent musicians and the song structures are decent. My problem is that a lot of bands are mixing styles and doing it much better. **OPETH** is a fine example of a good band but in today's multi-diverse market they are simply average. If they were around 10 years ago the world would have shit it's pants with excitement. Also, although there are good riffs on here, none stick in my head after the recording is over. I don't mean to blast the band because they obviously have talent. If you are new to the Metal scene, this may be the best album you've ever heard. Unfortunately to me, it's just old hat.

PATHOLOGY STENCH
Gluttony — ***Demo***

I don't mean to be sound homo-phobic, because you know that I'm not, but who wants to look at a big fat ass? Hey, male or female, does it really make a difference? A fat ass is nasty no matter who it belongs to. That is the cover that greets you on this demo. The music is sick Grindcore and well done at that. Actual song structures are present as are many neck-thrashing riffs. Slovakia, a country that I know little of, has one hell of a Metal scene! With bands like **PATHOLOGY STENCH**, SUFFOCATE, ERYTROSY and XIBALBA, this scene kicks the US's in the ass. US scenesters should take a good hard look at this country. If you like it fast, hard and heavy then get some STENCH! Just don't brag to people that you got the stench, they probably already know. CD is $15 Europe or $16 World. Contact: **Baro Barancik**, Tulska 16, 97401 Banska By Strica, Slovakia

PATHOLOGY STENCH
Practical Brutality — ***Demo***

Yep, this band jammed even way back in 1994 when this was released. They have seriously progressed over the years. While this demo was totally rooted in NAPALM DEATH-land, the new release shows a more distinctive style. Although, this is total NAPALM worship, it's done with much zest, vigor and spirit. There is a lot on here to get excited about!!! Total Grind/Death! NAPALM fans, if you were disappointed in the last two releases than take a healthy trip down Pathology lane for the goods and acquire this. (See Address above)

PENTACLE
Ride The Moonstorm — ***Demo***

The fact that they are heavily influenced by CELTIC FROST is quite apparent as you listen to this almost-a-decade-old band's demo. This concentrates on when CELTIC FROST was a true-powerhouse and not when their vocalist became Thomas Gabriel, the master of big poofy hair. Down tuned guitars and lots of quirk riffs are plenty present. Some influences by Unleashed are present on here as well. I was playing this in my home the other day when one of my non-Metalhead friends was over and he told me he hated this. It was apparent to me that he was lying because I was watching him out of the corner of my eye and he was headbanging and playing air guitar like a madman. It's impossible to deny the mighty riffs on here. The mighty spirit of FROST lives on again in the guise of **PENTACLE** and they have deemed themselves worthy. Highly recommended! Contact: **PENTACLE**, D. Prinssen, Hoge Larenseweg 55, 1221 AK Hilversum, Holland

PRIMUS
Rhinoplasy — **Interscope Records**

Haven't you people got tired of this band yet? I know that I have. *Frizzle Fry* was cool and so was the CD that followed it (you know, that cheese one), but then the novelty wore off and wore off fast. Those first two CD's were silly, quirky, and pretty Metal and the bass was out of this world. Then they were reduced to making fun of Wynona Ryder's beaver for attention. On this CD you get a load of slow paced crappy **PRIMUS** Jazz or something and a couple of mildly interesting live songs. Most horrible on here is the rape of the METALLICA classic "The Thing That Should Not Be." I thought they were friends with this band? Not anymore. The CD has some enhanced material for your computer but if you think I'm wasting time after this dung-heap sticking this CD in my computer then you're cukoo-cukoo for Cocoa Puffs!

THE PRIOR'S DIARY
Demo

I knew I was going to like this. I thought if they could put that much creativity into naming their band then the music has got to be at least half-decent. Everybody, including myself, has spoken of the great Atmospheric Death Metal band GARDEN OF SHADOWS and hailed them as the next "big" thing. Yes, they are grand and deserve much success but I've found a band even better and more deserving of your bucks and the band is, **THE PRIOR'S DIARY**. In this tape so many moods are set and you are transfixed throughout the entire hour and a half *plus*! Even a live track is placed on here and pulled off quite successfully, a rarity in this kind of music. Slower passages are intertwined with mid-paced, and of course speedy sections, but it never seems contrived. A slight bit of female vocals are thrown in on here but it's not overindulgent by any means. Even the spoken word sections sound cool. Besides the spoken word and female vocals, Black, Death, and even clean vocals are used accordingly. I wish this band would have sent me flyers because I would love to promote them instead of them just receiving a review amidst the others, but such is life. I will soon contact them for an interview! It's especially superb considering the band primarily consists of 23-year-olds. Expect GREAT things from this band and in the meantime contact them for this release! They are currently working on a follow up CD to be released soon. Contact: **THE PRIOR'S DIARY**, C/O Dominik Voigt, Im Durstenfeldele 6, 77933 Lahr/Schw., Germany

THE QUIET ROOM
Introspect — **Metal Blade**

Isn't The **QUIET ROOM** sort of an oxy-moron for a Metal band? Of course this could also be the sound after everybody has left the room out of boredom or non-understanding when **THE QUIET ROOM** plays. **THE QUIET ROOM** is one of these CDs that I acquire every few years or so. I play it and say to myself "Wow! these guys are talented, innovative and not the least bit interesting." I figure I just might be in a weird mood or something of that nature that day, so, I play it over and over, throughout the years never really liking it but always wanting to. **THE QUIET ROOM** plays Power/Progressive Metal that I'll never really enjoy but force myself to listen to eternally. What the hell is wrong with me? For the gang that must have every possible Progressive Metal CD that exists, or for Shit-Pop Mongoloids such as myself, this is for you. This CD has a few good sections but what CD doesn't have a few shining moments? Uhhh...never mind that. Strike that comment, I've heard about 1000 of them.

RADAKKA
Requiem For The Innocent — **Century Media**

When I first got a glimpse of this CD I thought it was the title of a New SOULFLY or SEPULTURA disc! **RADAKKA**? C'mon, you know what I mean? Right? When I put it on I didn't know what to expect. The unexpected is what I received. **RADAKKA**'s blend of music is somewhere between Hard Rock and Metal. They really focus on classy guitar on here while rhythm and song structure are really thought out. The fact that this is a seasoned act and has toured and been together for over a decade is quite obvious. **RADAKKA** has their own sound for sure. If you would like a description, and I'm sure you would or you wouldn't be reading this - unless you're really bored or taking a shit - what I find really prevalent in this band's influences would be QUEENSRYCHE and KIK TRACEE. It's also quite special to receive a CD where all the songs have their own identity. Passionate, aggressive, progressive and they still have a sense of humor and charm, now that's the makings of a good CD! **Century Media** is quickly becoming the **Metal Rules!** of the music industry by showcasing all genres of Metal and beyond!

RAIN FELL WITHIN
Solemn Days
Demo

The name alone gives this away. Here's another Atmospheric Meta band and they're from Virginia! Virginia? Huh? The cassette starts o very calm and mellow and then the vocals kick in. Female vocals. Yo know the kind that I'm speaking of. Then I wait patiently for Deat vocals and nothing happens. I wait some more for the music to pic up. I'm now becoming restless. Then I wait some more. Then I took nap. **RAIN FELL WITHIN** are on the right track but forgot to add lif to the proceedings. You know, maybe a little aggression, a cool guita sound or some different vocals mixed in. This is good for the first tw minutes but after that those two minutes just seem to loop over an over again! Boring! Contact: **RAIN FELL WITHIN** P.O. Box 222713 Chantilly, VA 20153 USA E-Mail: RainFellWithin@juno.com

REPENT
Black Path
Demo

Black Path is the 2nd demo I've received from this decidedly-averag Metal band. You always get nervous when a band tells you in their le ter that most people don't like their singer but we should give him chance. He then adds "By the way, he fits the music." I didn't think th guy sang that bad. He has an average Hardcore-meets-VIO-LENC type Metal style. He is equally as average as the rest of the cronies i this band. **REPENT** are close to making a go at it because I see a lot promise. But right now they're releasing average Hardcore/Thrash which wouldn't be so band if I haven't heard so many other bands d it better! It's a shame because these guys don't suck. For $8 Worldwid or $12 Worldwide gets you both tapes (see below)!! Contact: **REPENT** C/O Philip Rath, AM Wasserstarm 26, Gn 207 Lanf, Germany

REPENT
On Your Knees
Demo

There's nothing really that can be said here that wasn't said in my las review. This is their 1st tape and it's basically interchangeable with th 2nd. The only difference is vocally it sounds much more Hardcor meets all those "talk the lyrics type Thrash bands" that have bee completely erased from my memory. But like I stated in the previou review, keep an eye on these guys because the potential is definite lurking here. (See above for contact address)

RESURRECTURIS
Nocturnal
Demo

Right off the bat, a very nice CD cover is present. It was designed an drawn by one of the band members. Art is not the only talent for th impressive Metal band out of Italy! **RESURRECTURIS**, who have a 8-year history in the Italian Underground, deserve to break ou Running a gamut between Dark Metal and Death Metal, this ban gives a Heavy handed nod to the old Thrash masters as wel Especially evident is a SACRED REICH influence! Every song has it own universe soundwise. This is not no frills Metal. There is not a hi of filler. Vocals range from the many musical styles covered but a always done passionately and convincing. **RESURRECTURIS** eve use a guest female vocalist on here and for once she doesn't sound lik every other female voice used on so many CD's these days. Even really cool piano piece is used on here! *Nocturnal* is a truly uniqu and rewarding Metal experience. Contact: **RESURRECTURIS**, V Medaglie d' oro, 73, 63023 Fermo (Ap) Italy E-Mail: resunoiz@tin. Web: www.gammapop.com/resurrecturis

SAREPTA
S.U.N.K.
Demo

I like it. Can you imagine if that's all that I wrote for a review? Th would really suck. **SAREPTA** are a real Heavy Thrash-meets-Hardcor type band. The vocals are similar to Phil from PANTERA, but not twin. Considering this band used to be a Power Metal band they' made quite a turnaround. Riff-wise on here, you'll be banging yo head profusely in some spots while giving a soothing nod in other

Crunchy and Heavy, this is how Metal should sound. **SAREPTA** isn't my favorite Metal band of all time yet are another good slice of German Metal. That Country rules!!! Price is $10 Worldwide for this 5 song MCD! Contact: **SAREPTA**, Wolfsegger StraBe 9, D-84323 Massing, Germany E-Mail: Sarepta@t-online.de

SENSES
Fields Unsown
Demo

Oh my God! When did this happen? Roger Daltrey had a sex change operation? That's what I thought had happened when I heard vocalist Joan Morbee sing on this. The music is Mellow Progressive Rock with strong Epic Opera-like Who influences. If you're a fan of The Who then you'll really enjoy this. If you're not, then you'll probably be bored to tears. I did like the "book report" style bio package that came complete with all the lyrics. I'm a might confused by the band photo though? Pictured is Joan standing in Autumn clothes, next to a fence in a pasture. Uh...I'm sure I haven't won over anybody but Who fans at this point, but contact them if you're interested! Contact: **SENSES** C/O Joan Morbee, 137 Plains Road,, Augusta, NJ 07822 USA Web: www.senses.net E-Mail: senses@garden.net

SEPULTURA
Against — **Roadrunner**

I got back from vacation and I was sorting through the dozens of releases I had received when I was away, when I came across this! I wasn't going back to work on **Metal Rules!** 'til Monday but c'mon, it was the new **SEPULTURA**! I threw it on and then promptly threw up! Yuck! Why didn't I wait 'til Monday?! Three tracks in and I just shut it off. I never, ever review a CD on just one spin let alone only listening to three tracks, so when I went back to work I played it over and over again. My conclusion is that this isn't awful but a definite step back for **SEPULTURA**. The music is still very much **SEPULTURA** but I'm afraid without Max there is a very absent feel on this CD. Most of the tunes on here are filler while the few above-average songs end up getting lost due to the overabundance of sub-par Metal. Even an appearance by Jason Newstead of METALLICA can't save this, although it was cool to hear him playing and singing heavy music again. I'd like to say SOULFLY is much better than this but I've only heard bits and pieces of that disc. The material that I've heard blows this out of the water but I only would like to make this comparison fairly after I've reallllly heard SOULFLY. Capice? (Since I wrote this review I've heard SOULFLY in full many times! My hunch was correct!-Jeff) I really hope Max and **SEPULTURA** work out their differences because with an album like *Against*, **SEPULTURA** stands a good chance of losing their ever loyal fan base. We are all used to improvement with each consecutive album, not lackluster efforts such as this. Shape up or ship out!

SERMON
From Death To Death
Demo

The little slip was in my mail box, I have a registered package at the post office. Panic sets through my body! Is it good or is it some sort of court order? Did I mention that I hate going to the Post Office? That's why I don't have a PO Box. Then I sign for the package which resembles something that looks like it could possibly blow up. Is it a bomb? No, but it is "The Bomb." Sermon plays hard driving Death Metal with zesty riffs and a lot of gusto! Vocally, it's more Black Metal than Death. *From Death To Death* was recorded very properly with great sound quality. They also recently were signed by Wild Rags. Does this mean that I have to apologize to Wild Rags again? I'm sorry Wild Rags, you do have some great bands. See, I'm not too big of a man that I can't admit my mistakes. I really love what **SERMON** does. It's not so much the originality but the catchiness of the riffs. The riffs cause me to drive through red lights and run over people at crosswalks as I blare this on my lame car stereo. One thing I found strange was the cover art. It features a lovely and colorful panoramic forest scene with fish, frogs, snails, birds and lady bugs that are crawling over candy! Certainly not your usual Satanic-and-Skull-filled CD cover, huh? *From Death To Death* (does this mean that they're going somewhere?) is highly recommended and well worth your paltry dollars that **SERMON** asks for. *From Death To Death* is $5 (World) or $3 (Russia) for 10 songs and 50 minutes of music! Also available for the same price is their debut *Through Eternity* from 1996 which is 46 minutes long and features 9 songs. Or else, big spender, you can get both for $9 (World) or only $5 (Russia)! Hey, these prices are nothing when you check out the wacky piano driven tune on *From Death To Death*. Also available is a **SERMON** T-shirt for only $8 (Worldwide!) Be the first on your block to own one and make a fashion statement! Contact: **SERMON** C/O Sergey Smagin, 105043, 21, 29 A, 6th Parkovaya Street, Moscow, Russia • E-Mail: Sserg@antlogic.ru

Microphone...too...high...

SHORTINO
It's About Time — **Pulse Records**

Oh no, a solo record by the vocalist of ROUGH CUTT! This is gonna suck bad! I put it on and surprise, it's not half bad. **SHORTINO** is a Blues-tinged Rock with those Southern Rock female background vocals. Paul Shortino sounds strangely like Rod Stewart on here. Good old-fashioned raspy rock. Maybe this dude should have started his career with this instead of the God-awful band he used to sing for. Is there anything I don't like about this CD? The answer is yes. Why, is it so fuckin' long? Do we really need 21 songs? I didn't think so. It's just like Guns N' Roses when they released *Use Your Illusion 1 and 2*. Those records were loaded with filler and they could have just released one great CD instead of milking the public of their milk money. The same could be said on here, although greed isn't a factor here. All these songs are on one CD! And it doesn't cost anything extra! Trim the fat from this surprisingly pleasant record and you'd have a real winner. I would actually go to see this band perform if they played at a club nearby. Shock! Shock! I also enjoyed the duet Paul sung with his goatee-clad son. Father should be proud as should Son of Father! A solid effort!!!

SIN DIZZY
He's Not Dead — **Self-Released CD**

This band has two former members of the Christian Metal band STRYPER, Oz Fox and Tim Gaines. The songs go way back to 1991 when Michael Sweet left STRYPER. Written by Oz Fox these tunes were intended to be used for the next STRYPER album. Since STRYPER was finished, new songs were written and old songs were changed. At one time they even considered a Rock Opera of the crucifixion of Christ. Oy! Finally after years of farting around and gaining two new members *He's Not Dead* is released. The message of the CD is that Christ is alive hence *He's Not Dead*. Unfortunately, when this record was said and done all they created was a second-rate Glam outfit. The songs reek of DOKKEN and WARRANT throwaways! It's not pitiful but it's definitely not worth waiting 7 friggin' years for. If you want a great Christian Metal CD then go purchase Michael Sweet's new solo record *Truth*. Now that's a great CD! With this release of **SIN DIZZY** we now know where the talent lies in STRYPER! Contact: **SIN DIZZY** P.O. 822, Rancho Cucamonga, CA USA E-Mail: sindizzy@juno.com Web: http://members.aol.com/sindizzy/sindizzy.htm

16 VOLT
Super Cool Nothing — **Slip Disc Records**

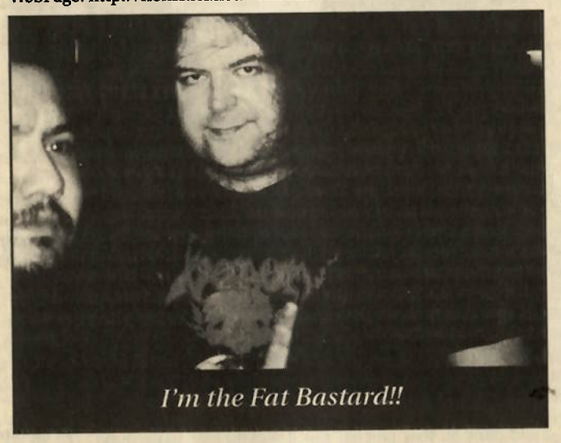
Man this label comes out of nowhere and really gives us a lot of product! Some of it blows but some of it I can't get out of my top 50 playlist! **16 VOLT** doesn't quite reach my playlist but it doesn't completely blow either. It's somewhere in the middleground. **16 VOLT** says they're a

hard band to pigeonhole and they won't like it if we do. Too bad! They are very much an Industrial Metal band that are very heavily influenced by NINE INCH NAILS, although not quite as good as them. Some of the tunes on here are pretty heavy but have that spoken Trent Reznor sound with the fuzzy synthetic sound for background effect. I can totally see people fucking to this or dancing at some Underground rave. Not the Industrial CD of the year but certainly not without merit. If the whole album was full of heavier tunes I would have enjoyed it more. Oh well, maybe with their next release.

SOMBER BLESSINGS

Legend ***Demo***

Many questions puzzle me as I review this CD. Are 8 people needed in a band? Do they think they're a football team? Do you think their violinist named Larry most likely got his ass kicked by the football team? Why, if you have 8 people in a band, would one dude be the guitarist, bassist, one of the vocalists, keyboardist and sequencer? Does the word "delegate" come to mind? Why don't you delegate the responsibilities, son? Why is it with 6 vocalists in the band, do they use the guy gargling with Listerine most predominately? You will need a lot of patience to listen to this CD. You know what kind of CD this is - I'm speaking of Medieval Metal mixed with Death mixed with Doom and they all hold hands and skip down to the Lilith Fair. You can't use this as background music because you'll keep thinking to yourself, what the fuck is that? One guy I know, suggested that this would be great background music for playing Dungeons & Dragons. I don't know about that because this is extremely distracting. Isn't D&D a role-playing game where you use your mind? Gargling, cellos, violins and chicks dancing through poppy fields, doesn't really work. I find it fair. It's well produced, professional and lyrically sound, but I'm just not the type of guy to sit in an easy chair and soak it in for hours. If you like your Metal uncommon, then **SOMBER BLESSINGS** is your playground. Just a little warning: **SOMBER BLESSINGS** have many more mellow parts than jammers. Proceed with caution. CD is $12 Worldwide! Make checks or money orders payable to **Scott Randall.** Contact: Somber Blessings C/O Scott Randall, 269 Colonnade Drive Apt#5, Charlottesville, VA 22903 USA E-Mail: srandall@wesleyan.edu WebPage: http://home.ici.net/~randall/randall.html



I'm the Fat Bastard!!

SOULFLY — Roadrunner

Although I didn't hear this in the proper order, my assumption was correct. **SOULFLY** blows away SEPULTURA's *Against*! It's quite obvious on this debut where the talent in SEPULTURA lies. I believe Max was 90% of SEPULTURA. **SOULFLY** is aggressive, angry and downright catchy. After an extremely bad year before recording this, Max put all his aggressions to good use: his music!! You know all his problems so I won't bore you with them. The new musicians Max picked to work with are true talents and **SOULFLY** seems to continue where SEPULTURA's *Roots* left off. Max, you have proven to me that you don't need SEPULTURA. I bet they wish that they felt the same. Although I could have done without the listless title track, **SOULFLY** bares a two-headed fire breathing dragon on crack! Hell yeah, Mr. Cavelera!!!

SOULGRIND

Whitsongs ***Dem***

When this band sent their stuff for review, they sent along a bunch other tapes and CD's that they are involved with. Ironically, the ori nal cassette I was sent was the last to be reviewed. **SOULGRIND** i band that certainly grows on you. I was starting to get a little bit s of the way all these heavy bands were mixing Folk into their Me because a lot of the time it didn't fit properly. Frankly, it didn't ma any sense. Here, the combination is quite effective and mixed e gantly. My only complaint is that in production when the Black pa come in they are turned up unevenly in the mix which cause a fuz effect. Even my wife got a kick out of this release as they alternat between Folk and Black Metal vocals and she even did a raucous i tation of what she was being forced to listen to. Elements of Doo and Old School are also mixed in quite effectively. If you're looking some Avant Garde Metal than I believe **SOULGRIND** can be your la Don't let me scare you with the term Avant Garde because it still h Metal riffs that we all like to hear; it's just quite original and new. is available for 25 DM or $20! Contact: **Grinded Soul Circ** Kytosuontie 8 C 35, 00300 Helsinki, Finland E-Mail: darkshiv@sc Web: www.sci.fi/darkshiv/soulg.htm

SQUATWEILER

New Mother Stomper **Spin Art Recor**

There was no way in hell, I was going to like this. I stared at the ph of this goofy-looking group that shared just as many geek girls as g and thought, "why?" I put it on and IT ROCKED! **SQUATWEILER** fun band with a strong dose of energy. They remind me very much a Beach Club band with added balls or vaginas! **SQUATWEILER** r through the ten numbers on here before you can blink your eyes. vocals remind me of JOAN JETT meets THE WAITRESS **SQUATWEILER** used to be called THREE CHICKS AND A JEW. N that's a name for a band! Wow, me and three chicks! Yeah, yeah! I good thing Maria never reads this magazine! I guess the one girl g a schlong? Although most of this is Up Beat Party Rock some Cla Rock, Punk and even Heavy Thrash is thrown in to m **SQUATWEILER** stand out in the crowd, just that little **SQUATWEILER** make you want to drink, party and have fun! W the hell is wrong with that? Contact: **Spin Art Records** P.O. Box 1 New York, NY 10156 Fax#(212)343-1970 Label E-Mail: spinart@erols.com • Band E-Mail: huel@ols.net

STEEL ASSASSIN

From The Vaults **GM**

With True Metal making a gallant comeback, we are getting shitlo of these re-issue deals. This is a collection of tracks from 1983-19 Transferred from vinyl to CD, this was obviously not remastered sounds like a record playing in your CD player. I think I even he hissing. **STEEL ASSASSIN** never made it in the 80's, so why wo they now? **STEEL ASSASSIN** is cheese central. With song titles "Demon Hell Rogues," "Sorcerer's Mistresses" and "Heavy M Soldier" it's pretty evident before you even hear it. This is True M with vocalists too screechy for their own good (and our ears). music is almost average but not there yet. If crappy sub-par 80's M interests you then you'll love this. Actually, some decent riffs can found on here but are lost among the muck. "Attila The Hun" does but that's only one song. The CD passes by the fair mark near the but as soon as the vocals appear it just screws everything up. If want great True Metal than order Wizard's "Battle Of Metal" f Metal Rules #2! Write me or e-mail me if you need the address. C available for $15 (Worldwide) Contact: GME Distribution C/O Grasso, 319 Centre Ave. Suite 175, Rockland, MA 02370 USA

SUPERHIGHWAY CARFIRE

Defective Immediately **Infernal Rac**

Indie Rock collides with Noize Rock on this unconventional releas change of pace for me and somewhat refreshing. **SUPERHIGHW CARFIRE** sounds like a band that would fit perfectly on the 19 "Repo Man" soundtrack. **SUPERHIGHWAY CARFIRE** is fuzzy gui and RAGE AGAINST THE MACHINE meets BUTTHOLE SURFE vocals all travelling across the desert plains near Vegas head nowhere except maybe stopping at hick gas stations and con across quirky characters all over the roadway. Indie Rock fans will

this and most Metalheads will hate it. Almost heavy enough to be Metal but not quite. It is loud enough to annoy your parents. Contact: **Ed Ballinger** C/O Infernal Racket Records P.O. Box 4641 Bethlehem, PA 18018 USA E-Mail: InfernalR@aol.com Web: www.infernalracket.com or member.aol.com/superhwycf

MICHAEL SWEET

Truth **Self-Released CD**

Yes, this is that guy from STRYPER, but this is definitely not STRYPER. Michael's latest Solo release features so many vocal styles. I was not aware that he was capable of this much. The song "Truth" opens up this CD with a very Grungy Pearl Jam-ish type style. This is the only song on this CD that I am not at all fond of, especially when he sings the line "Open your eye hi's" where he is majorly overaccentuating. It sounds somewhat retarded. Second tune in, "I Am Adam," has a very mellow John Lennon-ish section mixed back-and-forth with a rockin' sound. "Blue Bleed Through" is a pleasing ballad with yodeling. Yodeling? I swear, I'm not kidding. The music takes a twist with the funky "Wool And Chiffon." This song is primarily a ballad, as well as are most of the tracks on this CD. "Lift My Head" is an unconventional mix of Country, 4 NON BLONDES and THE BEATLES and is a very upbeat Poppy number. "One" is a very emotional mainly acoustic ballad that sounds extremely sincere in it's approach. "Achilles Heel" has a strangely familiar NIRVANA-like beat mixed in with those BEATLES influences again. "Rain" is another emotional ballad. "Distracted" is a light Rocker and "Stone" closes out the CD with a ballad that made my eyes well up with tears. It sounds as if something you would find in an old movie where Ryan O' Neal wipes the tear from Barbara Streisand's eye. A great CD overall but just a warning: THIS IS NOT METAL!!! It must be great though because I can't stop listening to this. Contact: MSFC P.O. Box 599, East Wareham, MA 02538 USA E-mail: msweet@capecod.net Web: www.michaelsweet.com (For an Interview with Michael see Metal Rules #4)

TALAS

If We Only Knew Then What We Know Now... **Metal Blade**

Most of you probably don't remember this Buffalo, NY three-piece who formed in 1974. I think I became interested in them in about 1982 , just two years prior to them breaking up. I'm sure you know the one man that left **TALAS** to make a mark on the world, Billy Sheehan. Billy became quite popular playing bass for the first Post-VAN HALEN David Lee Roth band and eventually landing with Pop-Metal superstars, MR. BIG. **TALAS** was a sadly underrated Rock band. They were obviously missed because when they returned 15 years later to make this Live album the 3,000+ tickets were sold out in a matter of days. It's amazing that after 15 years, **TALAS** played flawlessly on that very night. Check them out as they Rock through 13 of their originals and two covers. The covers are King Crimson's "21st Century Schizoid Man" (which has been beaten to death as of late) and Max Webster's "Battle Scar!" **TALAS** do both quite effectively! Also enjoy listening to the original version of "Shy Boy" that David Lee Roth used to cover. Sit back and enjoy the bass wizardry of Billy Sheehan and the excellent Arena Rock of **TALAS**! Man, if only Talas knew then what they know now....

JOEY TEMPEST

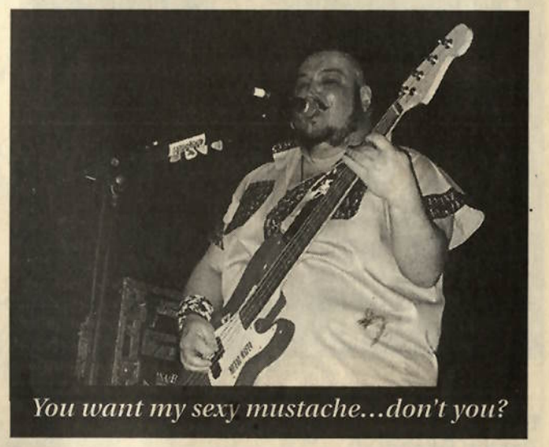
Azalea Place **Polydor**

Ughhh! What is with all these Glam dudes putting out all these Adult Contemporary records? If the Stevie Rachelle, formerly of TUFF, record wasn't bad enough, now we get this slop. If you're not familiar with this name, he was the lead singer of EUROPE. EUROPE was an extremely Poppy Metal band but were damn good mainly due to the frenetic guitar skills of John Norum. ***Azalea Place*** is a terrible CD, even worse than Stevie Rachelle's. Even Joey's voice sounds different. He sounds like Mike Tramp of WHITE LION now. By the way, "Joey"..."Stevie"...what about "Joe" and "Steve"? Grow up you little pussies. The last song on this CD is "Lucky" which even has instrumentation from that Celine Dion "Titanic" song in it. Give me a break. "Lucky," is right. You're lucky I received this from you and didn't spend $35 for this dreadful import. This is guaranteed to send you to sleep quicker than getting hit in the head with a shovel.

TENEBRAE

Hypnotech ***Demo***

I'm mostly concerned about a member of this band named Sami. He's one of the guitarists and vocalists for the band. He has blonde strands of hair always hanging in front of his face and he always seems sad in all the pictures provided. I think I would like to give him a cookie to cheer him up. Jeff, what are you talking about? I'm talking about Sami, dammit! Anyway, the music is awesome. **TENEBRAE** takes sections of different Metal Genres together to create their piece of musical legacy. My best description would be to take MACHINE HEAD, CORONER, some old Swedish Metal Band and add some Science Fiction-like vibe to it. Does that make any sense to you? If not, contact them and maybe they can give you a better description. I just speaketh what I heareth. All I know is I like what I hear, as should you. So contact them and order this. While you're at it send Sami a ring pop, Tootsie Rolls or something else, so, we can cheer this bastard up. Contact: **TENEBRAE**, Kytosuontie 8 c 35, 00300 Helsinki, Finland E-Mail: darkshiv@sci.fi Web: www.sci.fi/~darkshiv/tene.htm



You want my sexy mustache...don't you?

THEATRE OF TRAGEDY

Aegis **Century Media**

First of all, they're are too many mother fuckers in this band. It should be, like, 3-5 people. This is not a symphony. They should definitely keep the slutty-looking blonde with the push-up bra on. I like her. **THEATRE OF TRAGEDY** is an artsy, Gothic band. Their music is alright for a couple of songs but then begins to drag because there is not a hint of Metal on here. If you're taking a hot, bubble bath with champagne and, hopefully, that slutty-looking blonde with the push-up bra on, then you might like this to relax. The question is though, how do you relax with the slutty-looking blonde with the small tits that look better pushed up but they aren't because she's naked in the tub with you? This really doesn't do it for me past the first 10 minutes but maybe if I wasn't married and the slutty-looking blonde with the push-up bra...Ahhh fergit it!

TREST

Bow To Change ***Demo***

I find myself more and more amazed at what a monstrous scene there is in Slovakia. Trest is unique from the norm as they tout themselves as Thrash-Jazz-Core. A more accurate description would be Funk Metal ala RED HOT CHILI PEPPERS or MORDRED but with a heavier Metal influence. I'm not sure of where they get the jazz part from. Is there Jazz on here? Maybe it's because sometimes the music goes off on some sort of a tangent that makes no sense - just like Jazz. Could that be it? Hmmmm...I liked this for what it actually is: upbeat, happy and jumpy. I'm only occasionally in the mood for this type of Metal. If you're a Funk Metal fan then you won't feel ripped off buying this. At the very least you can sit around with the gang poking fun at the guy's really thick accent, since he sings clearly the majority of the time. Cassette is $4 Worldwide. Contact: **Oliver Ondras**, Popr. brigady 743/16, 058 01 Poprad, Slovakia

TURNING BLACK
With Madness I Relate *Demo*

When I first received this I thought, "Oh no, white boys rapping!" With a title like Turning Black and the fresh gear the dude is wearing on the cover, wouldn't you think the same? What it actually is was a two-man crap Metal band. The sound quality of this recording reminds me of SEPULTURA's *Bestial Devastation* and SODOM's *Obsessed By Cruelty* but granted, I'm not comparing this garbage to those two legends, I'm just explaining the production quality. This is four tracks of really bad Death Metal with unrecognizable spoken samples thrown in. I think a kangaroo and a koala bear could have made a better tape than this. This is a culmination of 4-years worth of work. In four years all they could come up with is four lousy songs? I hope they haven't quit their day jobs - if they are even smart enough to be hired for one. Cassette is $6 in Australia or $5 for the Rest Of The World. Contact: **TURNING BLACK**, Andrew MK-1 Cantwell, P.O. Box 502, Parramatta, NSW, Australia 2124

UNBURIED
Tortured Remains *Demo*

Intense! That would be the most accurate way to describe this demo. I'm not exactly sure what I expected to hear when I slapped this on. The band consists of a little Alfalfa-looking dude, a crazed, psychotic-looking, bald-headed gentleman and a semi-hot chick who just happens to be a vocalist. These Three Musketeers rage! Although effects are used in the vocals, they have a drum machine and a lot of their music riffs are completely ripped off, but they have this fuckin' intensity and madness about it that just shreds through your inner core. The song that the demo is named after is one of the best Death Metal songs that I have ever heard. No bullshit! You'll rewind it like, five times in a row. If they cleaned out the sound clip cliches and worked towards adding a little individuality to their music then they would be unstoppable and would be signed soon. Well, worth your spare Abe. ($5 if you're dumb) $6 (If you're a fuzzy little foreigner!) You get a free 11" x 17" poster with each purchase. Also available is their first demo for $3(World) and a L.M.N.F compilation for $2 (World) and they had a T-shirt for $13 (Worldwide) Contact: **UNBURIED** P.O. Box 301, Herndon, VA 20172 USA

VENOM
In Memoriam 1981-1994 **Cleopatra**

What can be said? If you like them then you'll dig this and if you don't this is not the release to win you over. Although this is a Greatest Hits album, there is still plenty of filler present. At 18 cuts there is about five songs too many. Hey, I know they helped spawn the whole Black Metal scene but let's be honest, they don't have 18 Greatest Hits. Another problem that I had with this release was that this is about unremastered as you can get. Many songs sound as if they were taped off of old, scratchy records and in some cases, warped video tapes. The production blows! If you have never heard **VENOM** (are there Metalheads who haven't?), you should pick up *Black Metal* or *At War With Satan*, which is my personal favorite for some good stuff. This is definitely not a quality greatest hits release.

VORPAL BUNNY
Reign Of The Lepus *Demo*

I'm not sure if this is supposed to be a joke or what? With a name like **VORPAL BUNNY** and the concept of its life and death as a theme, it's got to be. The reason that I'm not positive is because the music whoops ass. I really liked it. **VORPAL BUNNY** is raging Grindcore/Death with silly lyrics. Guess what? It works. So joke band or not, if you want a kick ass demo then order now. You'll find yourself playing it over and over. This is a heck of a lot of fun in a scene that sometimes takes itself too seriously. Price is $4 USA or $5 Rest Of World Contact: **Lord Fur Productions** P.O. Box 21428 Columbia Heights, MN 55421 USA
E-Mail: twitme@waste.org

WALHALLA
War Over Nordland *Demo*

Only three songs on here, so there is only so much that I can say. If it's a consolation to you, everything that I have to say is good. No frills Black/Death/Thrash is always good. No flutes, human organs or Casios, just pure assault. Sinister elfy vocals as well! I want a full length! Catch these guys before they break big. Cassette is available for $4 Europe or $5 Rest Of World. Contact: **Lord Heikkinen**, Kyosuontie 8 C 35, 00300 Helsinki, Finland E-mail: darkshiv@sci.fi or Agathon, Kestikuja 1 E 47, 00650 Hellsinki, Finland
E-Mail: agathon@sci.fi

WORLD OF HURT
Writing Off The Faces **Storm Records**

Here's a CD that I dislike more and more with each play. Why? Well, it's because I hear more and more annoying things with each play. They have a cool name, you would think they would Rock or something. It most reminds me of SUICIDAL TENDENCIES when Mike sings melodic for a while and then kicks it Suicidal style. That guy sounds like that with some simple drumming, simple riffs and some fair bass crapping in the background. He never kicks it **WORLD OF HURT** style. I can really picture this in my head playing and everybody at the concert is staring blankly at each other while the girlfriends of the band dance around to make it seem like somebody cares. Boring, boring, boring. Another thing that irritates me about this band is that they have a "Hunt Ted Nugent" shirt because they hate him and they want you too as well. They probably tried to open for him and he opted for a good band. By the way, you picked the wrong guy to send your hatred of Ted to. I love Ted and I hope he skewers you with one of his arrows, so there. If you're interested, I can't stop you. They have a free two-song sample tape, if you want to see for yourself. Contact: **WORLD OF HURT**, 4100 Gatesford, Troy, MI 48098 USA
Phone#(248)689-6273 E-Mail: worldofhurt666@hotmail.com
Web: www.geocities.com/sunsetstrip/ampitheatre/7664

XIBALBA
Grey Infinity *Demo*

Sorry again, guys, for the misspelling of your name throughout your entire interview in the last issue. That sucked! When I first received this I thought it was pretty cool that his friends told him about **Metal Rules! Magazine**. Especially cool was that this guy was from Slovakia. It seems **Metal Rules!** is quite popular over there. That rules! A year ago, I didn't even know where that country was and now **Metal Rules! Magazine** is selling like hotcakes over there. This 53:22 CD is really different from the norm, that's why I chose them to be interviewed in the last issue. Through 13 tracks, you get so many styles that your head will begin to spin. Opening with the "Theme From Dracula" you know that you're in for quite a treat. The closing number is equally satisfying. This band has been active since 1990 and are a right talented bunch. When I hear music like this, I wonder why and how this band isn't signed. Here's an original sound and you will even find yourself singing along with the choruses. I guarantee you will find parts on here that you have never heard before. The music is Heavy Power/Progressive with vocals that have a slight Ozzy-type tinge to them but with more of a range than the Mighty Oz! Keyboards add a mite bit of 70's Rock to this modern-sounding epic. Even both a ballad and a Rap song (If you can believe that?) are pulled off successfully. This CD is the shit, it simply rules and it's something that all fans of Rock and Metal will enjoy as well. Don't believe me? Send them a blank tape and they will tape it for you for free! Write now!!! Contact: **Karol Gerba**, Hemerkova 15, 04011 Kosice, Slovakia

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Scene Reports:

PHILADELPHIA CONCERT SCENE

by Chris Steinhagen

Since the beginning of the new year some of Metals biggest names have come through the Philadelphia market. The latest round of tours have brought some heavy hitters to the "City of Brotherly Love" BLACK SABBATH, PANTERA, SLAYER, SEPULTURA, KORN, ROB ZOMBIE and BIOHAZARD have all come through different venues in this market in the past months.

BLACK SABBATH AND PANTERA

First in February, BLACK SABBATH and PANTERA made up their canceled January show at the First Union Spectrum. THE DEFTONES. who were originally billed to open the show, were unable to perform due to complications. However, PANTERA did a fine job opening the show. Once again Phil Anselmo and the "Cowboys from Hell" showed Metal fans that their music is not dead. Time and time again this band proves themselves to be one of the most consistent Metal bands around. The band ripped through classics like "Walk", "This Love", "Cowboys from Hell" and "Fuckin' Hostile". The set also included tracks from the *Far Beyond Driven* album. Once again PANTERA fulfilled all of their fans' needs that lasted about an hour and lead to the full reunion performance by the founders of Metal.

It does not matter if you like BLACK SABBATH, most people know a few of their songs. These four gentleman from England, Bill Ward, Geezer Butler, Tony Iommi and Ozzy Osbourne are and always will be the "Godfathers" of heavy music.

Despite their age, these four men can still put on a show and perform some of the greatest Metal songs of all time. The set included all of the expected classics from the Sabbath catalog that fans want to hear. However, among those timeless classics were several gems for Hardcore Sabbath fans.

Performances of songs like "Elecrtic Funeral", "After Forever", "NIB" and "Dirty Women" were among some of the more surprising material performed. During a performance of "Black Sabbath" some pyrotechnics were lit around the stage adding a chilling effect to the eerie tone of the performance. The Sabs closed out the show with the essential classics "Iron Man" and "Paranoid", proving that they can still put on a full show.

SEPULTURA AND BIOHAZARD

SEPULTURA and BIOHAZARD also made it through the area stopping and playing at the Trocadero in March. SPINESHANK supported the two bands with a solid opening performance of tracks from their debut effort.

The BIOHAZARD set was probably the highlight of the evening, with performances of tracks from their yet to be released fifth studio album. The performance of the track "Breakdown", a new track, was definitely one of the shining moments of the set along with the performances of "Punishment" and "Hold my Own". The boys from Brooklyn also performed tracks from the *State of the World Address* album and their latest disc *Mata Leao* including a well received performance of "Authority" and "These Eyes".

SEPULTURA's performance was their second performance in Philly with new member Derrick Green belting out the vocals.

The set included tracks from the bands wide span of albums including tracks from their newest effort *Against*. Highlights included "Arise", "Inner Self", and "Propaganda". The set of songs was chosen well and Green again proved he can do the old material as well as the new.

However, BIOHAZARD is a tough act to follow and once again they out-performed the headliner of the tour.

KORN AND ROB ZOMBIE

Next through town was the KORN and ROB ZOMBIE tour which hit the First Union Center in March. Both of these bands, especially KORN, have taken a lot of heat recently from the Metal scene for their increased popularity. Despite any criticism they have received they both can still perform as well as anyone else.

The show was opened by VIDEODRONE a new band from KORN's label. Their album was produced by KORN's bass player Fieldy who came out during the performance of one of the bands' songs and was probably the highlight of the bands lackluster set.

Between acts there was a special unscheduled feature. A total breast fest was held between sets exciting the male portion of the crowd.

ROB ZOMBIE's performance included a stage show including dancing robots, dancing provocative women, and a stage set that resembled a haunted house. A large amount of pyrotechnics were also used to enhance their performance.

However it did not need all that. ZOMBIE's set included the much anticipated WHITE ZOMBIE tracks from *Astro Creep 2000* and a performance of "Thunder Kiss '65" which was well received by the crowd. Tracks from ZOMBIE's solo debut were also perfromed including the radio played "Dragula" and "Living Dead Girl".

The live performance of these tracks gave me a new appreciation for the ZOMBIE solo stuff. In fact the album has made several return trips to my CD player.

KORN's set included the "Korn Cage" once again allowing fans on stage behing the band in a cage. Singer Jonathan Davis pumped the crowd up between songs, showing that he can be the frontman for a multimillion album selling Metal band. The set included songs from all three albums including a medley which included different pieces of many of their songs from their debut disc. Highlights from the set included "Blind", "Shoots and Ladders", "Chi", "A.D.I.D.A.S.", "Got the Life", and "Freak on a Leash".

To end the show the band switched instruments to perform one last song. With Jonathan on drums, David on Bass, Fieldy on vocals and Munkey and Head switching sides. On the stage the reorganized KORN performed the Cheech and Chong song on the end of their ***Follow the Leader*** disc. The crowd went nuts and the show came to an end.

Overall KORN proved that than can still perform and get the crowd moving as well as they did back when they used to play the small venues like the Troc.

SLAYER

On April fools day another big name Metal act ripped through town. SLAYER played the Electric Factory on the second leg of their tour for *Diabolus in Musica*...the bands latest release.

MESHUGGAH and SICK OF IT ALL opened the show and were surprisingly well received by the crowd. MESHUGGAH's performance was good as was the performance of New York's SICK OF IT ALL, who got the crowd moving.

When it was time for SLAYER to come on the adrenaline started to flow and off to the pit we go.

SLAYER's performance was great. Everytime I see these guys their stage presence becomes more and more effective. The band played songs from, their entire catalog from the old to the new. Highlights included "Die by the Sword", "Raining Blood", "War Ensemble" and "Angel of Death". After a solid set the band returned to the stage for an encore. That first guitar part of "South of Heaven" blasted through the PA and ripped through the ears of eager fans waiting for the band to perform the song.

Over all this was one of the better performances SLAYER has put on over the past couple of years and was an exciting and entertaining show.

METAL FEST REPORT

by Joe Kucharski

Lips, from Anvil, described it best: white noise. That was his take on most of the music performed at the March Metal Meltdown. I am not a fan of Death Metal and never will be; I like to have some comprehension of what is being said. Death Metal doesn't allow one to do that. White noise - my feelings are echoed.

Aside from that factor, the March Metal Meltdown catered to the fantasies of all Metalheads as three stages pumped out continuous metal for over twenty-three hours. Metal Jeff was in a personal Valhalla as he headbanged his way from stage to stage with me in tow. Metal was our food. Metal was our drug that was shot incessantly through our system. If it wasn't so damn cold...

I was greatly impressed with the precision and effort it took in breaking down one act to prepare for the next. In most cases, the amount of time it took merely lingered in the tens of minutes. The last metalfest I attended was Van Halen's Monsters of Rock where downtime could be counted in the hours. The only good element of that tour was the heat, a key factor missing in Asbury Park.

The Asbury Park Convention Hall and Paramount Theater was nothing more than an enclosure, and a rather dismal one at that. Granted, this was a Metalfest and I wasn't expecting the luxury of stadium-seating or a towel that would automatically pat off any excess piss one's shaking would miss while at the urinal, but after attending various cons in Philly, New York and Chicago, I did have a certain mindset of preparation that Asbury Park failed to uphold. Thanks, New Jersey. The convention hall was a warehouse. Nothing more, nothing less. And damn, it was cold.

Lest I complain too much, there was a shitload of music to listen to - and some of it was even good. Some bands were ridiculously horrible: EARTH CRISIS, CANDIRIA, LORDE OF ALL DESIRES. Some were just plain ridiculous: BUTCHERY, G.O.D., WYKKED WYTCH, DEAD BY MOURNING. There were disappointments: MORTICIAN, MONSTER X. But there were also surprises: SHANGO, GARDEN OF SHADOWS, DISARRAY - all of whom played exceptionally-cool shows that had me rocking full-tilt.

Two bands in particular were gods among men Friday night: DECEASED and ICED EARTH. DECEASED played hard and they played heavy. There was nothing cooler than seeing four guitarists lined up (four guitarists?! -Jeff, Jeremy & Angus) and headbanging, with their long metal-trademarked tresses, simultaneously in beat. Equally impressive was hearing a drummer also providing the main vocals. I've been a fan of ICED EARTH for a while now (with thanks, in part, due to the ***Metal Rules! Magazine*** review) and their show provided the climax for Friday night's activities. Matthew Barlow provided killer vocals and worked in tandem with Randall and Jon's guitar-riffs.

Saturday provided more musical diversity and a much longer docket, but as cool as the bands were that day, the true concert didn't start for me until SLAUGHTER HOUSE took the Paramount Theatre stage headlining an 80's Old School Power Metal revival. WHIPLASH, RIOT, ANVIL, SWEET SAVAGE and RAVEN were among some of those great rockers that proved to many younger fans and musicians alike that old people can still kick ass! This is the Metal I believe in. This is the Metal I love. Hell...this is the Metal I just fucking understand. Lyrics were meant to be heard, to sing along with and eventually throw back on the stage. Growling and screaming through a computer-distorted haze is nothing more than background noise that blends all too easily into the rest of the band's music causing it to disappear rather than stand out on its own.

Many new bands have the right amount of talent, but it is my belief that a return to What-Has-Gone-Before could enhance their sound and bring a new majesty to the medium. Enough preaching for now, but I do want to conclude with a plea to the March Metal Meltdown's commandant, Jack Koshick: can we do this again in the SUMMER?

Zine Reviews

In they come by the dozens....zines! With this issue we have even more than ever. If you don't see your zine here it's not because it's not being reviewed. It just may take a while. Do you want me to glance at it or read it?? There are some rather bizarre submissions this time around. A rumor must have spread that I was the New Factsheet 5 because I received tons of zines that had nothing to do with Metal! Hell, they have nothing to do with music but I know the hundreds of hours that go into making a zine, so they are reviewed here!! Read on and enjoy! And remember I don't write all the contact info for my health, so send for some of this shit!! Y'all here!!

Mongoloid in heat

ABORIGINAL VOICES VOL 5 #5

Umm, okay, let's see... this is uh... well it's kinda like... hmm. I have to admit I couldn't actually bring myself to read this. It's not a zine, it's a real, professionally-made magazine. It looks like its about American Indian art and stuff. Woo-whee. I know Metalheads love this crap. You'll all be wanting to run out and buy this baby. It's on glossy paper, and it has a subscription card in it that offers 37% off newsstand prices. You can't beat that with a stick! Where do I sign up? It's filled with lots of kooky pictures in color no less. There's one really fun picture of a guy in a crazy Indian hat playing a ukele. I'd buy it just for that; he's the Indian Don Ho! It even has a UPC bar code on the front cover to make it easier for the supermarket checkout girls to ring it up. It's top notch stuff. Subscription: 1 yr. (6 issues) $25.00 Contact: **ABORIGINAL VOICES,** 116 Spadina Ave., Suite 201, Toronto, ON M5V 2K6 • Phone: 1-800-324-6067 • e-mail: abvoices@inforamp.net

Review done by Glenn Wilson

ADBUSTERS #22

This is a 64-page color, glossy magazine that's Anti-Advertising. Strangely enough, there's an ad in here. Gotta pay for that Anti-Advertising with advertising, right? Right? Some amusing articles surface near the end of this magazine. The guy that makes Mickey Mouse/Disney shirts for places he wouldn't normally visit was a hoot. Disney Beirut, Disney Three Mile Island and Disney Waco, would you go there? Also the article about the guy that likes to walk on cars that get in his way is fun. Walk on my car you sack of monkey giblets and I'll punch you back into mommy's womb. The rest of the articles are about as exciting as the magazine on the plane. Nice layout though. Price is $5.75 Worldwide. Contact: **ADBUSTERS** Media Foundation Unit 658, P.O. Box 658, Blaine, WA 98231-9834 USA
Phone#1-800-663-1243 E-Mail: adbusters@adbusters.org

ARROWS OF MALICE #1

I was curious to check this out because Julia Britton, the editor, started her zine around the same time as me. I think we both have something to contribute to the underground. Of course you know that mine does or you wouldn't be reading this now, would you? Arrows Of Malice is printed pro with a cool cover and it features interviews with DEADEN, EDENROT, POETS OF THE PLAGUE, WITCHERY, ANGELKILL, MORTUARY OATH and FURIM. She also gives you about 60 reviews. The interviews are more fun than the usual Q&A. All this is crammed into 14 pages. Wow! How the hell does she do that? Julia accomplishes this feat by leaving out photos in her magazine. For readers that get distracted easily, this may be a problem. It's like reading a Metal journal entry instead of a magazine. Luckily, the writing is intelligent and witty enough to carry me through it. Joe Shmoe (Who the hell is Joe Shmoe?) will be rushing off to go play Nintendo. It's well worth your $2 Worldwide (Cash Only!) So, get out your reading glasses and get prepared. (Yes, more micro print.) I only wonder one thing. Why is Julia's nickname "Grisly?" Brrrr...Contact: **ARROWS OF MALICE** C/O Julia Britton P.O. Box 668 House Springs, MO 63051 USA

BIZARRISM #6

I had hoped this would be about sick, sex acts with monkeys. It wasn't. Instead this 40-page, thick-papered zine is full of quirky stories. Want an idea of the contents? How about stories about manuscripts kept by murderers? Interested in Sigmund Freud's coke problem? Want to know about another religious weirdo ala David Koresh? How about a strip club called the Pink Pussycat? Maybe the tale of the White Ghost (An Australian motorcycle racer who used to dress all in white, bike included!). If any or all these subjects interest you than check this out! Also included are book reviews and comics. A whole lot of fun. I picked it up to take a glance at it and never put it back down till' I was finished with it! It's yours for only $5 Worldwide. Contact: **BIZARRISM** P.O. Box 546, Haymarket, NSW 1240, Australia

BLEED ISSUE #1 - OCT. 96'

Josh here, reviewing a couple of zines for Jeff. Let's start off by saying... Awwwwh! A mini zine from France. It' so cute. And it smells like Metal. In this issue they interviewed KRABATHOR and short reviewed, I don't know, we'll say 50 CD's, EP's & Demos. Okay, Here's what I like. Nice logo and his English isn't bad. Here's what sucks. The reviews run together, no space, tab, return, hyphen, nipple or boxes to seperate them. We all like to save space. But half of your crowd isn't going to read past the 5th never-ending line. If that's not enough to twist your nuts into a pretzel, the zine is printed on 8 1/2x 11 folded in half and it's written in Micro-font. If you hold the zine's spread arm's length away the page looks gray. It's enough to make you spin in circles, fire coke bottles at your dog and spew out random Dennis Hopper quotes from the late 60's...or you could just hold it really close. It's only one American dollar. Contact: **BLEED DIST.**, 5 Bis La Demi-Lune, 60140 LIANCOURT, France.

THE BRONCO CHARLIE NEWS VOL. 1 NUMBER 1

Slap on your spurs and strap on your six shooter, Buckaroos - it's time for the Bronco Charlie News. This is a historical newsletter about the last surviving member of the Pony Express (of course he died in 1955 so I guess surviving is the wrong word to use). It's 12-pages long and printed on newsprint - it actually looks like a thin newspaper. Out of the four zines Jeff gave me to review this is the only one I really liked. Who doesn't like Cowboys and Indians? This issue is chock full of fun, Cowboy stories all featuring Bronco Charlie - and they're all true so you might actually learn something. They should have enough stories to keep this going for a while because Bronco Charlie lived to be 105-years-old. This zine gets two thumbs up and is well worth the $2.50 cover price. Get your copy today! Contact: **Lois Miller Ellsworth**, 136 Conway Street #9, Greenfield, Mass. 01301 • e-mail: broncho@tiac.net • Web: http://www.mossbrook.com/broncho/

Review by Glenn Wilson

BRUTALIZED #6

Listen up and listen up good!! If you love Death Metal then you're a complete fucking asshole if you don't buy this zine! Brutalized is the Death Metal bible!! 'Nuff said! Only $3 USA and $5 World. Contact: **BRUTALIZED** C/O Phil Nauman P.O. Box 886, Lebanon, PA 17042 USA

CANADIAN ASSAULT #1

Canadian Assault is 56-pages thick of Metal mayhem. There is a lot to love about this zine. The #1 thing is definitely the enthusiasm and love of Metal that the editor so obviously has. You also get a feel of what he's really like when reading his playlists, top favorite TV shows and Top 12 movies. A lot of Old School flavor is prevalent in here with Ancient album reviews, a two page Venom tribute page and Ye Old flyers pages, which you guessed it are photocopies of old Classic flyers. Pretty cool! Interviews are lengthy but clever enough to make you want to read through. Some of the artists interviewed are Rotting, Arch Enemy, Fleshgrind and Scepter. Also a couple of pages of the zine are dedicated to Occult study. Also a scanned document from Canadian Customs of some merchandise held back from Customs will cause you to giggle! What I didn't like about the zine was that the reviews were all over the place instead of being grouped together. I know why he does this because he explains himself but it's really hard to look back at something when it's scattered on 15 pages throughout the issue. I also found it odd that there is only 4 zine reviews? I thought Dale was a total zine-a-holic? So where are the reviews man? The one thing I positively hated about the zine was during interviews and other spots where photos are present, the text goes and continues on the other side of the photo instead of down the side. It's a total pain in the ass to read that way and as he states the photos are dark as Chef's ass anyway. I don't want to close this out on a sour note because all in all it's a killer mag. With those easy to fix quirks worked out, it will be a perfect read. Contact: **CANADIAN ASSAULT MAG** C/O Dale Roy, Apt. #1, 6318 Bingham Street, Philadelphia, PA 19111 USA E-Mail: metaldale@hotmail.com

CANADIAN ASSAULT #2

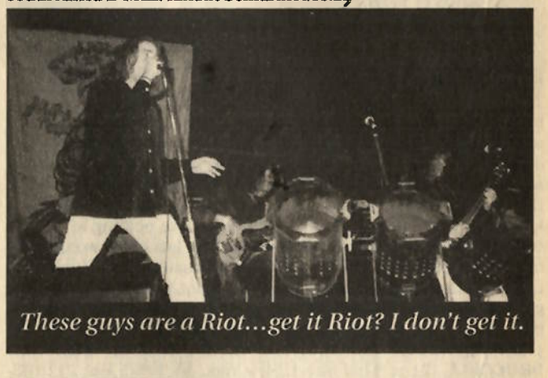
Dale is back with his 2nd assault and I'm damn glad! I would like to get the things that I don't like out of the way first before I rave at the rest. First of all, the two points that bothered me in the first issue are still present: A) The text that starts at one end of the photo and continues on the other (Fuckin' hard to read.) B)Lack of order with reviews (Reviews are everywhere!). My newest complaint is the photos. You know when you go to pick up your film and there is always a couple of crappy photos that you wish they wouldn't have charged you for? Well, that's what most of the photos in here resemble. Push that superficial crap aside and you get the main thing involved with this zine, the writing! The writing is pure aces! Dale writes with the enthusiasm of no other (Except me! He he...). He fuckin' LOVES Metal! As Dale says "It Flows Through His Veins!!!" I believe it! It comes across so naturally and that's what makes it such an enthusiastic read. The reviews are totally in-depth; no little snippets passing as reviews. Dale is witty, knowledgeable and somebody you'd be proud to call your Metal Brother! (What Dale calls us all!) Brothers Unite! Inside you get interviews with PENTACLE, POSSESSED, HORNA, TWISTED TOWER DIRE, HEADACHE DESCRIBED ZINE, INTESTINE, INCANTATION, GORGUTS, QUO VADIS and LUST. Also a fun section called Killer Qwotez! This is where Dale prints fucked up or cool shit that he reads in other zines. Of course you get all the other stuff that you come to expect in a zine as well. This is the goods! Contact Dale immediately at his New Philly locale! Only $3 USA or $4 world! (See address above!)

THE CIRCLE #4

Germany is the true home of True Heavy Metal and truly thick fanzines. This time it's 70-pages thick and topped off with a crudely-drawn knight on the cover. I can't read this because it's in German, but you do seem to get your money's worth. There are interviews with UNREST, DARK NOVA, LABYRINTH (Gods!), ENCHANT, EDGUY, SACRED STEEL, INNER SANCTUM and many others. Although it's written in German you can still make out how he feels about the bands because he rates them on a scale of 1-100 in addition to the written review. This particular issue is very text heavy, so if you're German and an avid reader then you're in luck. Non-German-speaking lazy asses will probably be discouraged. The Circle is available for 6 DM. For your country's currency or to ask a question, contact: **THE CIRCLE** C/O Marc Witte Schoenhauser Str. 21, D-44135 Dortmund, Germany

THE CRUSADE (SCRIPTURE 3)

Oh yeah! My first fanzine, or mail for that matter, from South Africa and it's a winner! This issue came to me in a wooden crate along with a monkey and an elephant tusk. I know....very funny Jeff! Ha ha! Actually, I've heard a lot about this zine and was anxious to check it out. It's quite refreshing to see how popular and united the Metal community is worldwide. Inside there are chats with HAMMERFALL (Yeah!), NILE, RETALIATION, KRABATHOR, CRADLE OF FILTH, METAL ORISON and OMEN (Africa). CD and demo reviews sections are separate and in an original order. They have a rating scale of 0-10 Battle Axes with of course 10 being the highest, or Bo Derek. Well, they start with 10 Battle Axes and they work there way down to the sucky 0 Battle Axes. Once again, and thank God, the editor and writers are not afraid to write what they really think. A decent zine that only suffers from poor photo quality (Which that problem is shared with about 90% of other zines). Crusader is available for only $3 Worldwide and they have a Distro as well, so, you shouldn't hesitate to contacting them immediately. Contact: **Lunatic** P.O. Box 39550, 0060 Preotoria, South Africa E-Mail: lunatic@smartnet.co.za



These guys are a Riot...get it Riot? I don't get it.

DEAL WITH IT #2

This zine deals with the Punk/Hardcore scene. Overall it's an excellent zine. I didn't recognize a lot of the newer bands and things in the zine mainly because I no longer listen to Punk or Hardcore. The Hardcore and Punk that I may listen to is probably too mainstream to be considered Punk or Hardcore. Right, anyway, Dan Gross (Publisher) has a zine packed with info. He's got interviews with JET'S TO BRAZIL, Jimmy Gestapo (You know who this guy is!) Duff McKagen and Anthony "My head is too Goddamn big for my lack luster career" Michael Hall. It seems this shithead still thinks he's a big star. He basically screwed Dan out of an interview. Don't worry Dan we're all gonna find dear Mr. Hall and systematcially stuff his head so far up his ass that he'll be wearing himself as a hat. As for the writing in the zine it's not bad. One guy in particular stood out - Dan Yemin. He wrote why Emo sucks. This guy should do more writing for this zine. For a good read of reviews, interviews and editorials of the Punk/Hardcore scene contact: **Dan Gross**, 333 E. Lancaster Ave #109, Wynnewood, PA 19096 USA. Email: Dealmag@aol.com...Oh yeah this zine is free - BEAT THAT!! Review by Jeremy "Editing" Staff

DECIBELS STORM #9

I like the French. They release a fat magazine and in English to boot! (Hope Jeremy doesn't notice this!) Decibels Storm looks like a professional magazine with it's full-color cover and glossy pages. Strike that, it is a professional magazine. At 80-pages you get quite a bargain. In fact, you also get a CD and a separate 24-page catalog for your money. In this issue you get interviews with CREMATORY, TESTAMENT, NAPALM DEATH, VENOM, IN FLAMES, etc. Also a massive Holland Scene report with lots of respective interviews! This magazine has been translated well; it's almost devoid of Bizarro English. If you're looking for reviews then you've come to the right spot as well. I believe I counted 8 million? Or was it 9 million? So, oh God, how much is this fucker going to cost? It's only $4 in Europe and $5 for the Rest of The World!! What a bargain! Check it out! Contact: **DECIBELS STORM**, Boite Postale 25, 83501 LA Seynes/Mercedex-France Phone: 04 94 30 72 15 Fax: 04 94 87 11 69 E-mail: decibelsstorm@infonie.fr

DEVILS TRIANGLE #5

Wheee... another issue of Devils Triangle. I have to say that this is the strangest way a zine has ever been presented. Remember those plastic things that you put on your school papers and book reports? Well, Tommy puts them on his zine. I think staples would have been cheaper. Maybe they had a run on them down at the dollar store? Tommy's biggest problem, which is the same as last time, is his layout. It still stinks. Somebody should give him a hand because he would then have a decent-looking zine. Inside you get interviews with CANNIBAL CORPSE, SKINLAB, SAXON, SICKNESS, REQUIEM, UNHOLY DEATH and ANGELKILL! You also get music updates, which I believe are pointless in most zines. Do we ever get those fuckers out on time? You also get show reviews and a shitload of music reviews. The best part of the zine was definitely the advertisement section. On one page you get a hot spread-eagled chick and an ad for Metal Rules! What possibly could be better than that? Tommy, please get yourself a layout guy because your writing is good. Devils Triangle is $5 Worldwide or send $8 for the zine, membership(?), free ad and a compilation tape featuring 10 Underground bands!!! Contact: **Tommy Voelker** P.O. Box 870232, Morrow, GA 30287-0232 USA

DREADED BROCCOLI - VOLUME 6, NUMBER 2

This isn't actually a zine, it's a food newsletter and ironically enough it has nothing to do with broccoli. I have no idea why they sent a copy of this to *Metal Rules!*, but then again I have no idea why people do a lot of things. Like the time Jeff crapped his pants and put his underware in a cup under the bathroom sink and left it there for three years. But that's a story for another time. This is a 12 page newsletter & it looks very professional. Most of the stories have nothing to do with cooking, it's mostly odd rambling stories with lots of big words them college types like to use. If you want to know many ways to cook cornmeal, and the history of honey, grab this. If not, save your money and go grab a bag of Corn-Nuts and a pack of Bit O'Honey. They'll probably be a lot more satisfying. Dreaded Broccoli is quarterly $14.00 per year. They accept Visa/M.C. and checks. Send to: **DREADED BROCCOLI**, 121 w. 92nd Street, New York, NY 10025 Fax: 212/663-2407 • E-mail: chaspel@prodigy.com ***Review by Glenn Wilson***

DVOPEK #3

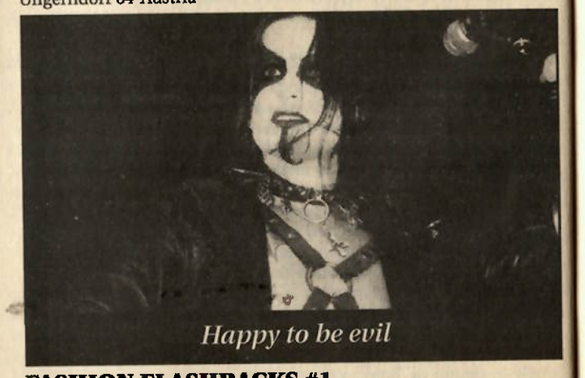
My first zine from Yugoslavia. It's a real rough zine to read because it's written half in Serbian and the other half in English. I know you're asking why does that make it tough to read because you are used to me reviewing foreign zines. It's because the English translation is hideous in some spots and the format is fucked! The magazine starts from both sides, sections seem to be missing and so on. With a lot more organization and a better layout this would be herds better! The editor does have the magazine printed professionally and there are contacts that I haven't seen anywhere else before, so this is not all bad. I did enjoy the article on bongs and the one on how to tell if somebody is suicidal. Of course you get the regular features and interviews with the like of LED, WRUM, COLLAPSE, SAREPTA, STEADFAST and CIRCLE OF FRIENDS! A bunch of reviews of concerts, zines, demos and albums round things out nicely. A little less carelessness would make this hunky-dory. Once again, I must stress if I were to do a zine in a language other than my own it would read like Bizarro Superman on crack. Dvopek is $4 Worldwide! Contact: **Radovan** Andric N.O.V. 39/19 14000 Valjevo, Yugoslavia Phone:014/227 504 E-Mail: dvopek@beotel.yu Web: www.beotel.yu/~dvopek

THE ECONOCLAST VOL. 4 THE HUMANITARIAN ISSUE

It was a lot of fun to read this zine. You get a bunch of different stuff in here, ranging from Poetry to Political stories. I don't remember anything in particular from it, except that it was a really fun read. The staff at The Econoclast take submissions for stories and poems. Anyone who likes to write should definitely get in contact with these people. I can't because Jeff will drag me out of the studio by my nuts all the while beating me about the head with a domesticated Sea Bass. Anyone one who likes good strong story writing with a hint of poetry should definitely send for this. Contact: Email: makeitnew@aol.com
Review by Jeremy "Editing" Staff

ETERNAL MOURNING #2

I have a couple of quick questions before I begin this review. Why do all zines that come from Austria become mongolated by the time they reach me? And why don't they speak Austrian over there instead of German? Now that I got that out of my system I can begin. Eternal Mourning is a big, thick read. It's written half in German and the other half in English. Yay! I can read some of it. There are a lot of interviews in here including RHYMES OF DESTRUCTION, COUNTESS, AGATHODAIMON, LOBOTOMY, GRABESMOND, GRAVEWORM, APOPHIS, MORK (From Ork?) GRYING, INTROITUS, SORHIN, ALLEGIANCE, DORNEN REICH, HERETIC, EN GARDE, CALLENDISH CIRCLE, MENHIR, DARK SWAN DEATH, BATTLE, GODDESS OF DESIRE, MORTUARY DRAPE, LUNAR AURORA, KRABATHOR, LUX OCCULTA, VARATHRON, WHISPERS IN THE SHADOW, IMPENDING DOOM, NASTROND, DUNKELGRAF, AMORTIS, STILLEVOLK, INVERTED, GOTTERDAMMERUNG, MANIAC BUTCHER, UNPURE and CRAVING FOR VALUSIA. Phewww! Holy shit! This is well worth your time for the contacts alone and you also get zine and music reviews! The whole thing is done in a commendable cut and paste style. A lot of work went into this. All though the interviews are pretty standard they make up for it in sheer volume. At the very least they familiarize you with many new bands that you can contact on your own. Eternal Mourning is 4DM or $6 Contact: **ETERNAL MOURNING**, Thomes "Och" Appel, A-2133 Ungerndorf 64-Austria



Happy to be evil

FASHION FLASHBACKS #1

Can you guess what this zine is about? That's correct, vintage clothing. What? You don't care? Well, actually neither do I but the editor is a closet Metal head. I thought this might be interesting. What was I thinking? Articles featured are Fad and Failures of Hair Fashion, Polyester Then and Now, Designer dude: Gernreich and Candies shoes. Wheee...Yours for only $3 USA or $5 Rest Of World. Contact: **FASHION FLASHBACKS** P.O. Box 138, San Mateo, CA 94401 USA Phone#(415)344-6977 E-Mail: lanajean@best.com
Web: www.best.com/~lanajean/flashbacks.html

GRIMOIRE OF EXALTED DEEDS #13

Bill must be doing something right because this now sports a color cover. Bill uses this to his advantage by placing one of his lovely Grimoire girls on the cover. Inside are interviews with DARK FUNERAL, JUNGLE ROT, VONDUR, BLOODTHORN, CANNIBAL CORPSE, CENTURIAN, THORR'S HAMMER, ACHERON, WITCHERY and KRABATHOR. Surprisingly, some good reviews are actually given out in this issue. Interviews are as silly as ever. One thing that is starting to irk me about the interviews is not only the Olde English style but the inside jokes. I know that Bill is best buddies with the gang at Necropolis but must they be mentioned dozens of time in each issue? Leaving 30,000 people out of a joke or two is okay, but to do it consistently sucks. The magazine is available for free at many locations or else you can mail $1 USA or $3 World for a copy. Contact: **THE GRIMOIRE OF EXALTED DEEDS** 248 Lakeview Avenue Suite 237, Clifton, NJ 07011 USA E-Mail: Billzbub@wfmu.org

HAIR TO STAY #15 - FALL 1998

Josh again. Oooh! Uhh! How the!? WHY?...Alright, Alright. This full color, glossy paper magazine is filled with women that don't shave...Anywhere! What kind of whack jobs desire this strange wookie sex? These aren't gorgeous super-models either. These aren't even the "Well, I'm drunk and she's here" kinda girls. These are hair-netted, yellow rubber gloved lunch lady Sasquatches. These chics have hairier legs than me and that's nothing to be proud of. Here's a lovely quote from one of these follical freaks' stories, "Camille did as she was told, squatting over my face. I grabbed her tail of hair with my teeth and gave it a playful tug". YEEACHHK! NO, MAN! That's butt hair you're flossing with. Even if you want to see this zine just out of curiosity. You know, that curious you get from car accidents. Be prepared to part your hair to the left... This magazine is $15! Ohh, the price of love. Contact: **HAIR TO STAY** P.O. Box 80667, Dartmouth, MA 02748 USA E-Mail: pam@hairtostay.com.

HARBINGER OF DEVASTATION #1

My buddy, Mark Deathbringer, who lives in the other side of the World (Australia), really put a ton of work into this debut issue. In his "Rancid Ranting" he explains why his zine is named what it's called and what he will cover. Death and Grind are his choices of music he plans to feature. But, that's not all this zine has. Also inside is an interview with porn star Asia Carrera complete with photos, a pin-up of Chloe Jones, beer reviews, pub reviews, Porno Movie Reviews, Fatal Fuck-Ups: True Stories of Stupid Deaths, cartoons, sick photos of dead people who blew their head off or got run over by a truck or something and more! Nasty, nasty stuff! The expected is included as well. There are lots of reviews and interviews with such Death/Grind stalwarts as MISERY, BRUTAL TRUTH, FLESHGRIND, SUFFOCATION, NEFARIOUS, DEADSPAWN, CEREBRAL TURBULENCY, ADRAMELIN and GROINCHURN. All this topped with a full-color Louis Royo cover. The price is a steal at $5 Worldwide! Contact: **HARBINGER OF DEVASTATION** P.O. Box 226, Kogarah NSW, Australia 2217 Phone#+61 2 95530474 Fax#+61 2 9221 7598
E-Mail: hod@ausmetal.net web: www.ausmetal.net

HECTIC METAL #1

If you're looking for good deals in the World of Metal zines, then check this out! Hectic Metal is an 80-page, half-sized zine with both front and back covers having an extremely-bright usage of colors! The zine is a little dated but it just came out recently if that counts for anything. There are interviews with EXHUMED, IMPALED, SANGREAMADO, OLD GRANDAD, STUCK MOJO, FUGAZI and LOST GOAT. My favorite little item in here was the section entitled "Sick and ugly things seen on the Oak Street Sidewalk." For example #7: Another dead cat, this one with it's head hanging over the edge of the sidewalk into the gutter, as if it were passed out drunk. You gotta wonder where the editor lives, when he comes in contact with more than one dead cat and the other nauseating things that he sees. Fascinating! There are quite a few reviews within and the Bay Area ones are kept together in their own incestuous little section. I like how the reviews get attention in this zine. Space is made available for logos and sometimes CD covers as well. Also included are some comic reviews of two total shit comics and a few show reviews. **Hectic Metal Productions** also represents OLD GRANDAD! When was it a good idea for a band to call themselves that? And to make matters worse, there is another extreme band that goes by the name Old Man's Child! What's up with that? Make sure you also check out the fun letters page. Silly stuff! Hectic Metal is available for only $3 USA or $6 World. Cash only! Contact: **HECTIC PRODUCTIONS** P.O. Box 401122, San Francisco, CA 94120-1122 USA Web: www.hectic.com

HOG #4

Please keep sending stuff like this!!! There is nothing like well-drawn, violent, porno comics. Who can resist a story about a chick who kicks these dudes asses for touching her bum, fucks 'em all and then proceeds to kill them all while complaining of foreplay? How about a yarn of an old dude who was experimented on to cure his terminal cancer and ended up with semen possessing hallucinative properties that is worth a fortune on the Black Market? All the stories are fun like that. I gave a couple of them a double read. If you like sick and fun comics, then contact them. The comic is 3.2 Quid or ask them for pricing in your country. Contact: **Rik Rawling**, 4 A Hardy Avenue, Churwell, Morley, Leeds, West Yorkshire L S27 7SJ, England
E-Mail: richard.rawling@virgin.net Web:www.hog.com

Happy to be old and arthritis free

HORROR HIGH #5

A nice, glossy 28-page magazine from lovely Lithuania. A grainy photo of some impaled guy compliments the cover. You couldn't cram more in here if you tried. If this had a normal-sized print it would run about 80 pages. Interviews are of the typical lot with a few interesting ones thrown in. Especially evident is the editor's interest of each band's knowledge of the Lithuanian scene. Interviews are with SEPTIC FLESH, DECORYAH, OPERA LX, MERESSIN, DARK REALITY, GNOME, WITHERING SURFACE, MYTHOLOGICAL COLD TOWERS, SLOUGH (Idiots!), NILE and ORDO EQUILIBRIO, etc. You also get somewhere in the range of 200+ reviews. A bonus is that they all come with album running times and song titles if provided by the bands. I don't really agree with some of the reviews, for example giving the incredibly shitty and oh-so common Enthroned a 4.15 out of 5. How do you come up with a .15 anyway? Isn't that legally drunk? Everybody is entitled to their own opinions, hence so many Metal mags. I also found it amusing to see BOO YA TRIBE and ENUFF Z' NUFF reviewed amongst all this extreme Grindcore, Death and Black Metal. They also feature a section that's popular in today's mainstream mags: ask one question and have a bunch of bands answer it. This issue's burning question: "What was the first Metal band that you have heard and what bands made the biggest influence to your music?" Common enough question but always one that's enjoyable to hear the results of. A mega, mega, mega, mega contact sheet is a real bonus in here. One sad thing was that I couldn't read the editors note - it's printed way too small and the printing is light. Oh well. Contact: Horror High C/O Paulius Puidokas P.O. Box 2137, 2017 Vilnius, Lithuania E-Mail: PUIDOKAS@PUB.OSF.LT Price is $3
Worldwide! Great deal! Cash only!

HOTWIRE (THE NEWSLETTER OF THE TOASTER MUSEUM FOUNDATION) VOL 2 #2

Alright, I've waited my whole life for this! A zine about toasters! Now me and my toaster loving friends can do a Mad-Happy Mexican hat dance around my microwave while simultaneously mocking it! Concentrating on old toasters, the Toaster Museum and toaster paraphernalia, this actually held my interest. The best feature is where the readers write and the wonderful profiles on the collectors themselves. These people are serious about the toaster, so wipe that smirk off your face! Unique and available for $3.33 (Worldwide!) Contact: **HOTWIRE/THE TOASTER MUSEUM FOUNDATION**, 1003 Carlton Ave. Suite B, Charlottesville, VA 22902 USA Web: www.toaster.org E-Mail: eric@toaster.org

I HAVE SEEN THE TRUTH AND IT MAKES NO SENSE #3

I Have Seen The Truth as well, but it makes sense. There are actually good zines without Metal in them. No shit. If you don't believe me, check this bad boy out. Don't think I'm partial just because Metal Rules! #1 got a great review in this zine. Metal Rules! has received great reviews in some lousy zines who didn't receive a good one in return. Receiving a great review in this zine reassured me that I have been doing my job correctly. I have made a magazine about Metal that you don't have to be a Metalhead to enjoy. Did that make sense? Also remember, I reviewed #2 of this zine before I was reviewed, so there. I found this particular issue even better than the last. Most of the stories and articles I was actually interested in. What's funny though is even subjects that I could give two shits about, like bicycles and a tool class, was made fun by Mark's personal way of telling a story. It's like he's sitting next to you telling it personally. I got a big kick out of the fact that Mark spent hours looking up ridiculous names in a 2 CD-ROM set that has the White Pages for the entire country. You won't believe what he found. Some examples are 6 Elmer Fudds, 23 Clark Kents, 1 Santa Claus, 8 Donald Ducks, a Fred and Wilma Flintstone, Ida Ass, Amos Twat, Andre Tits and four Fucks (that's how many people have the same last name and not what I did last night. That number would be 5.). He even found 6 Jesus Christs! That's enough to send the churches into a tizzy. There is also a game similar to last month's "Tom Swifties." I think Mark is going to get scalped for this one. Also, Fun with Pirate Radio, letters page and reviews - including one of Metal Rules! (Insert Arsenio Hall woo-woos here)(No, please don't - Joe). Plus, lots more fun articles. Only $2 Worldwide for tons of fun!! Contact: **I HAVE SEEN THE TRUTH AND IT MAKES NO SENSE** C/O Mark Wannop P.O. Box 134, Collingswood, NJ 08108-0134 USA

She sings so low you'd swear she had balls

IMHOTEP #4 (WOULD YOU LIKE TO DANCE?)

Alright, alright the Heavy Metal community owes me a new pair of glasses from reading all this tiny, weenie, eenie, peenie fonts. Never is it more prevalent then in this zine. On the review pages, which are backward for some reason, there is not only microscopic print, but photos in the background that makes them even harder to read. There is a ton of music in here, the majority of which is Black Metal. Well over 20 interviews are also featured. For example, you get DARK FUNERAL, DARK TRANQUILITY, IMPALED NAZARENE, LORD SNOWMAN(?), LUX OCCULTA, ABSU and many others. The interviews are lengthy, sometimes becoming a little pretentious and overbearing. You would think that some of the bands think they are Aristotle or Ancient prophets of some sort. Blah...blah...blah... shut the fuck up and play your music for christsakes! You get way more than your money's worth from this magazine. Shitloads upon shitloads of reviews are featured here and they are not half-assed in any way. To improve this magazine, Roy (is that a Norwegian name? Sounds like he's from Montana) could leave out the pictures in the background. They always irritated me when done incorrectly, like here. It shouldn't make things more difficult to read but simply enhance the format. Also, the photos need a little bit of work. When they are so dark that you can't make out what you're seeing, why bother using them? All-in-all, a really strange, enjoyable read and well worth your dollars. I also thought the idea of calling an interview "dancing" was a really different idea. I found it funny to picture Dark Funeral and their like dancing. Imhotep is $6 USA or 10 DM or 40NOK. Contact: **IMHOTEP MAGAZINE**, R.K., Box 2559, 4004 Ullandhaug, Norway

IMPLOSION #9

I didn't want to like this zine. From its sub-title boast "A journal of the bizarre and eccentric" to the full-color cover spotlighting some goth chick with a knife to her throat, Implosion was destined to be a joke of a read resulting in a humorously-painful slam of a review. How wrong I was. Implosion is a class-act production and an interestingly entertaining read. Aside from its slick, graphic look combining the best of full-color and black-and-white photos, Implosion lives up to its name by truly spotlighting the bizarre and eccentric. From well-done interviews featuring POPaganda artist Ron English and author John Gilmore to its really cool cover-story on shrunken heads and disturbing fiction on a sexually-repressed psychiatrist who dresses as the Batman, Implosion has me looking forward to issue #10. Implosion is absolutely worthy of your time and money and if you consider yourself "bizarre and eccentric" and don't read Implosion, then you aren't. $4.95 US. $5.95 Canada. Contact: **Implosion Publishing, Inc.**, 777 28th St., Orlando, FL 32805 Phone: 407-246-6515 Web: www.implosion-mag.com -JOE

IN DEED HELL UNDERGROUND ZINE #7 (ENGLISH VERSION)

Sometimes I'm glad I can't read these foreign mags, because if I did I might say bad things about them. This English version is a shadow of the usual In Deed Hell Czech version. It's less than half the size and has no review section. That's right, no reviews. Included in here are a bunch of interviews and some band histories. The English is pretty poor and the writings are rather dull. With a better grasp of the English language this could be a lot better. It needs work. Layout wise it's above-average but the art is excellent. If you want a great magazine from the Czech Republic, then check out Silence Diary. If you're going to order In Deed Hell then check out the Czech language version. You may not be able to read it but it's way better. Contact: **Jaromir "Deather" Bezruc**, Chrovsku 15, 794 01 Krnov, Czech Republic Phone#42/0652/713 398 Fax#42/0652/710 505 E-Mail: under@krnov.cesnet.cz

INNER V.O.I.D. HARD MUSIC JOURNAL #2

This 50-page magazine features a glossy b/w cover and looks right professional. Inside you get interviews with STUCK MOJO, FLESTIZED, ONE LIFE CREW, BROKEN HOPE, REGURGITATION, COMPRESSION, PISSED MIDGETS, CRUSH EFEKT and IN FLAMES. Although there are a lot of interviews, they could be jazzed up a bit. They're informative but pretty a-typical. In the opposite spectrum, the music reviews, which their are plenty of, are straight-up honest. It's no-holds barred, which is a rarity, especially so, in the zine section. Many other zines feel they shouldn't piss off other zines by giving them a bad review, so they play it safe. Inner V.O.I.D. certainly doesn't. A couple of zines get reamed pretty bad. Also included is a feature on up-and-coming bands, concert reviews and a cool feature "From The Wall." "From The Wall" is similar to "From The Vault" in SOD magazine. Essentially, it's a review of Classic Metal albums, much of which I remember purchasing, so it's a pleasant trip down memory lane. One rare feature that is really an essential section for up-and-coming bands is a list of radio stations that play Metal. It's a fat list and it's a Worldwide list, so, it should be quite helpful for demo bands. Also available is a classified ad for only $2. Inner V.O.I.D. is available for $3 World or $10 World if you're a Vegan fag (their words not mine.) Contact: **INNER V.O.I.D.** P.O. Box 975, Dickson, TN 37055 USA Tel/fax (615)446-1998

INTOXICATED #8

That British chap, Graham, has brought out another issue of his half-sized Metal zine. Most of the articles and interviews in here are with bands I don't have interest in. They are with JUNKIE XL, STUCK MOJO, MY OWN VICTIM, BREED 77, (HED)PE, H20, TURU SATANA and MADBALL just to name a few. It's kind of sad for me when I can't find one band in a zine that I like. You may very well dig these bands and the writing is top notch, so you can be the judge. Decent-sized live reviews and plenty of CD and demo reviews round this out. A nice, little zine if you're a fan of the bands mentioned. Zine is $4 Europe or $5 Rest Of World. Contact: **Graham Finney** P.O. Box 2581, Reading, Berkshire, England, RG1 7 GT

IRON PAGES JULY/AUGUST 1998

Iron Pages is a German Metal magazine. I have heard quite a bit about it, yet have never seen it. I was quite surprised when I received it and discovered it was only 32 pages. I'm used to seeing those 9000-page monsters that Germany usually produces. Of course I can't tell you anything about the writing because it's completely written in German text. The format is excellent, as is the case with most German mags. Some good stuff is crammed into these 32 pages. They make great use of space. Interviews are with GRAVE DIGGER, SWEET SAVAGE, ANGEL CORPSE, GENITORTURERS, PARIAH, MERCYFUL FATE, IN EXTREMO, FEAR FACTORY, SILENT SCREAM and others. Also, plenty of zine and music reviews to keep you satiated. There is plenty of text to read (or not) and the photos (b/w and color) are all very crisp and professional. I actually think I figured out why this magazine is only 32 pages. This fucker is FREE!! The price on the cover is 0,00 DM. I think that means free? I didn't receive any pricing info and the letter that I received from them has to be the worst English translation that I've ever read. You can contact them at Iron Pages (The World City Magazine) C/O Otger Jeske, DGZ-Ring 7, 13086 Berlin, Germany Telephone#030/47 02 15 21Fax#030/47 02 15 22 Web: www.ip-verlag.de E-Mail: pages@ip-verlag.de

JUGGERNAUT (THE MAGAZINE OF EXTREME MUSIC) #1

Where the hell can you buy this? What store sells this? I've only seen one ad for it in Factsheet 5, but that was it. This magazine is awesome-looking with its full-color cover featuring Karen Crisis covered in blood and a lot of color interiors as well. All the writers seem very informed and they write highly intriguing articles about CRISIS, MEGADETH, SOULFLY, MORBID ANGEL, TODAY IS THE DAY, HYPOCRISY etc. Also, a not-so-true-but-amusing-just-the-same article about 13 soundtracks to fuck and suck to. On the generally lousy side of things, this magazine covers no unsigned bands and doesn't do any zine reviews. That's probably why it isn't supported at all in the Underground. If you want to read about bands that were once in the Underground and now on the way up then you'll enjoy this. If you're looking for a plethora of yet-unseen talent, then look elsewhere. Price is $3.95 USA , $5.25 Canada 0r 2.95 pounds in the UK. Contact: **Implosion Publishing Inc.,** 777 28th St., Orlando, FL 32805 USA Phone#(407)246-6515 Fax#(407)481-8559 E-mail: juggernaut@implosion-mag.com

LAMENTATION #10

What a surprise this was when I pulled opened this mangled package from Hungary. Although this is extremely hard on the eyes (micro print, baby!), the layout is virtually flawless. Most surprising is the editor's grasp of the English language. He has once again surpassed most American editors. Interesting, and sometimes silly, interviews are featured with EBONY TEARS, *Metal-Core* editor Chris Forbes, FORGOTTEN SILENCE, VIOLATION, LATHEBRA, FALL OF THE LEAFE, UNHOLA, DAYBREAK, HOSTILE and ANCIENT CEREMONY. I like the zine reviews section where he is very critical of flaws and imperfections. He seemed to overlook any problems Chris Forbes has with his zine though. If you're going to be critical it must extend to everyone, including friends. Even Chris will admit that his layout is weak. Tsk...tsk... for not mentioning it, Jedo. Also, over 150 music reviews that are short but honest and informative. A damn fine read and only $3 Worldwide for this package that comes wrapped in a two-color, glossy cover with a photo of Hungary(?). Contact: **LAMENTATION** C/O Bechtel J. Ervin, H-7187 Majos, VII.u.22, Hungary Phone/fax:+36 74 450 157

LAST JUDGEMENT #6

I see the Editor of this zine has found a cheaper route to print this. It's now on newsprint and folds up perfectly into a 55-cent mailing envelope. Cool! Inside are interviews with CANNIBAL CORPSE, SKITZO (sick fucker!!!) and GORGUTS. Also inside is a dozen zine reviews and a sardine can full of reviews (that means a lot). Reviews are written brilliantly and knowledgeably. A fine zine and a better price! Send this guy a buck or some stamps and check it out. Contact: **LAST JUDGEMENT** Zine P.O. Box 692, Arkansas City, KS 67005 USA

Able to deep throat a mic in a single gulp

LIS FAN MONTHLY

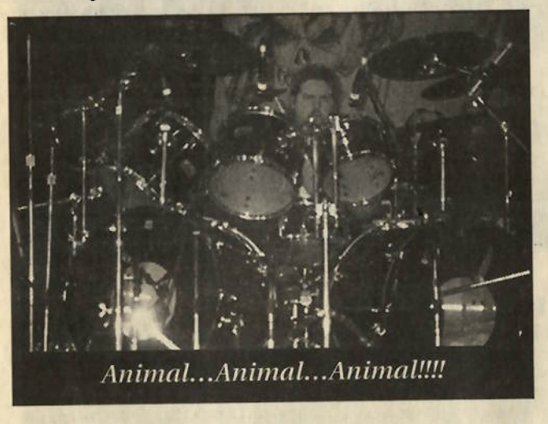
This zine is devoted to the wonderful, old show Lost in Space. The best part about the whole issue is the cover, it features a picture of Dr. Smith in prison being analy raped by an ape-man from Planet of the Apes. At least that's what it looks like to me. It's photocopied, stapled on the side, and 20 pages-long including front and back cover. My major problem with this zine is the section called "News Clippings," which is about 95% of the zine. News Clippings is basically a bunch of articles clipped form other sources (newspapers, magazines, etc.) and reprinted in this thing with no credit given to the original publishers. This guy is making money off other peoples work; that sucks! Don't waste your three bucks. Subscription: $36.00 per yr. USA $48.00 per yr. everywhere else $3.00 per single issue Contact: **Flint Mitchell** 7331 Robyn Dr., St. Louis, MO 63129-5233
Web: http://www.webspawner.com/users/lisfan/
e-mail: Lisfanedtr@aol.com *Review written by Glenn Wilson*

METAL CORE #25

And Chris goes on and on. Chris is certainly consistent in his issue and this particular one is no exception. Long-ass informative interviews with THE CHASM, AGENT STEEL, BLOOD FEAST, *Metal Nightmare Fanzine* and *The Grimoire of the Exalted Deeds*. A few things did stand out to me in the big 25. I'll get the bad out of the way first. First of all, Chris has a computer now - can't he clean up the review section? I skipped reading it after a few quick glances. Second of all, way to many spelling errors leaked out this time. Nobody is perfect but a spelling error on the cover is pretty bad. On the good tip is Chris's personal story about a girl he liked and how he lost weight by training hard and being motivated. Keep up the good work with stories like that. I like to know about the people whose work I enjoy; it adds flavor to the product. This zine is available for free at some locations or send $1 USA or $3 Rest of World to: **Chris Forbes,** 13 Carriage Lane, Marlton, NJ 08053-1109 Phone#(609)985-8830 or (609)596-1975 • Fax#(609)983-6288 E-Mail: metalczine@aol.com

METAL MAIDENS #13

I will never be reviewed in this magazine and that sucks!! Well, I could if I lopped off my dick, grew a nice set of mammaries and changed my name to Jennifer. You see, to be in *Metal Maidens*, you have to be a Maiden and I don't mean Iron! If there is a girl in the band then you can get an inclusion. You might get a mention if you play in a band that plays in a concert with a girl band or a band that has a girl in it. Anyway, you get the point. The subtitle for this magazine is The Ultimate Magazine Dedicated to Women in Hard Rock and Heavy Metal. They could actually change the "Ultimate" part to "Only" if they preferred. I know of no other magazine that covers only women. Especially cool is that the whole staff are women as well, or so I believe. I know the editor is. All that aside, this is a well-written and fun magazine with great coverage and nice photos. I also saw a lot of bands that I've never seen anywhere else. Bands covered in here are THE DONNAS, LIZ VANDALL, TANG, DORO, LANA LANE, OPERA IX, THERION and WYKKED WYTCH. Plus a memorial and special article celebrating the late, great Wendy O Williams. Plus extensive coverage of the Wakken Open Air Festival and tons of concert, CD and Demo reviews. Worth a peek! Metal Maidens is $5 Europe and $7 Rest of World. Contact: **METAL MAIDENS,** P.O. Box 230, 4140 AE Leerdam, The Netherlands Telephone#+31 345 614136 Fax#+31 345 610688 E-mail: metalmaid@globalxs.nl
Web: www.geocities.com/sunsetstrip/stadium/5238



MISANTHROPE #1

Think right now of all those poorly-produced newsprint zines with the unreadable micro-print articles and pixillated black-and-white photos that feature more black than white. Misanthrope is exactly that. Its saving,grace, though, is its publication as a magazine. The slick, glossy pages and card-stock cover make reading it much easier on the eyes and even allows the font size to be slightly larger than the usual micro-print. The, photos, though, still look like shit and the overall feel is that of those trashy zines. Misanthrope is actually a fun read, if you tend to follow a more bizarre, S&M lifestyle, which I think is more prevalent down in Australia from where this zine originates. Editor Chris Masters has a fun yet strong tone that is prevalent throughout the issue and is fully committed to his lifestyle as a misanthrope. At times, however, that voice is too strong, thus becoming overpowering even threatening. It's my guess that he doesn't give a shit about such details and if you are a true misanthrope you don't either. For me, though, a regular Metal dude who just enjoys writing, it is a little too heavy. Issue #1 does feature a really cool article taking the reader step-by-step through butchering the human carcass for consumption. Yummy! Australia: $5, US & World: $8. Contact: **MISANTHROPE**, c/o Fiendish Press, PO Box 7545, St. Kilda Road, Melbourne, VIC 3004, Australia.
E-Mail: cmasters@melbourne.DIALix.oz.au
-JOE

MONOZINE #5

Now this was a hell of a lot of fun! Monozine is all stories that were sent in by people that have had various illnesses. They are all done with a lot of humor. Whether it be puking, diarrhea, shitting your pants, asthma, herpes, broken ankles, giant tape worms that stare up from you from your porcelain throne, poison ivy on your pecker and much more, it's all covered in here. I laughed out loud so many times that I lost count. Mixed in with all these stories is comic strips telling equal tales of woe. I especially enjoyed the story of the kid with Testicular Torsion. Don't know what that is? You probably don't want to know but "Oh, yes, you do!!" It's like a car wreck. Format is also fun with a natural ingredient on the top of each page and what it's used for medically. There are little drawings of medical tools to fill in the blank spaces and the bottom of the page is reserved for a doctor asking questions in both English and Spanish. This is one of the GREATEST things I've ever read!! Highly recommended!! Only $3 Worldwide! Contact: **MONOZINE**, P.O. Box 598, Reistertown, MD 21136 USA
E-Mail:monozine@yahoo.com

MORE THAN MUSIC #13

More Than Music. Alright! What else do they have? Video reviews? Nope. Comedy? No. Candy for the kids? No. Nude chicks? No. Massage parlour reviews? No. Presidential addresses? No. No. No. No. No. No. What do they do that's more than music then? Nothing. It should be called More Than Metal because although Non-Metal music does get a back seat in here, they are still prevalent. With Metal you get interviews with ANTHRAX, BRUTAL TRUTH, CANNIBAL CORPSE, MOTORHEAD, MORBID ANGEL (Of Course!), TURA SATANA, ARCH ENEMY, UNION, SAVATAGE, AUTOGRAPH and more!! The reviews are more than plentiful with solid writing skills. I like the full coverage of all genres of Metal and get a kick out of the non-Metal reviews that are sent to the back of the bus. This is a nice compact 48 page zine with a solid piece of art of MOTORHEAD on the cover. I will tell the Editor to kick his printer in the Nuts for whatever he did to the print. It looks like words are crossed out all over the place. What's up with that? Otherwise a great little magazine. Cost is $3 USA and $5 Rest Of World!! Contact: **MORE THAN MUSIC** P.O. Box 4203, Overland Park, KS 66204-0203 USA E-Mail: mtmag@aol.com

MYSTICUS ZINE #1

This 24 page, half sized, photo copied but folded magazine is from Panama! That's right, Panama! (Insert musical notes here!) Mysticus is written in some sections in English and some in Espanol. There are interviews with FORGOTTEN SILENCE, AVULSION, AETURNUM, ANGELKILL, INFAMY, TALES OF DARKNORD, CORPUS CHRISTI, MANGLED and SOLSTAFIR. Also included are a bunch of articles about other Underground bands but unfortunately I think they may be just band bios? One interesting aspect is the scene reports that you get from Uruguay, Argentina, Poland and Slovakia. The downfall of this magazine is the amount of reviews. There is only seven. On the other hand, you do get some cool scene reports and it's from Panama! Panama is fun, right? (Insert musical notes again.) This zine is a so-so affair but I'm sure it could improve. Starting with a new scanner for the photos would be a good place to begin. Mysticus is $3 Worldwide. Contact: **Eric Caballero,** P.O. Box 4133, PMA. 5., PANAMA

NECRO-ANARCHY SEPT/DEC 1997 #11

This 60 page magazine looks awesome, full glossy cover and all. There are plenty of interviews with some big names included. For example you get NAPALM DEATH, GRIP INC, CRADLE OF FILTH, DIMMU BORGIR, BEWITCHED, OBITUARY, COAL CHAMBER and GODFLESH among others. This is pretty old, so I wonder how infrequently this is printed? Also featured is plenty of news that's quite worthless at this point. Also other various articles and a ton of reviews and it's all written in that special Chili language that tastes so good with crackers but "HEY!", there are plenty of pictures to look at right? Necro-Anarchy also features a decent contact sheet and it's in English!! Contact: **NECRO-ANARCHY MAGAZINE** C/O Claudio Torres P.O. Box 2590, Centro De Casillas, Santiago-Chile Telephone#+56 2 6971410 Fax#+56 2 6724297 E-Mail:claudio@server.precipicio.cl Web:www.precipio.cl/~claudio

NOISEQUEEN #15

Noisequeen is a gay magazine. I don't mean it's bad, I mean gay as in homosexual. Never say that *Metal Rules!* doesn't exist on the fringe of society. Although I found nothing in here to relate to, I found it amusing just the same. If you're queer, you'll probably love it. There is poetry, book and zine reviews and a decent amount of music reviews. Sorry, no Metal. There is also a photocopied letter from Quentin Crisp. Who the hell is he? Also featured an article on the Top 10 reasons to suck up and sell out, a parody book on the dummies guide to being queer, a joining the gay community discount voucher and some clever art. Hey, a bargain for only $1.50 (worldwide!) Contact: **Tim Murphy**, 238 Glen Castle Road, Kingston, Ontario, Canada K7M4N8
E-Mail:noise_queen@hotmail.com

OLD GOAT ZINE #3

First of all, I think the editor Kevin Coate is older than me! Cool! Although, I really don't care for the bands being interviewed in this issue, Kevin makes them very readable. Interviews are with VIOLENT DISSORDER, COUNTERPOISE, ANTI-FLAG, DEVICE and JACK KILLED JILL. The reviews of zines and music are informative but I think that Kevin is a little too nice in the fact that he seems to like everything and doesn't have anything bad to say. As for things that I really enjoyed was the Frank Zappa history, all the places where Kevin rambles (It's good ramblings and gives the zine a special touch.) and the article by Ski mask asking who's gonna want to relive the 90's? How can such a fun and true letter come from the guy behind the sad BLACK MASS OF ABSU and the horrid Riverside Art Scene? One other question is who is this Dan Buck character whose shitty art and worse poetry is polluting the Underground. (Since writing this review I have received submissions from Mr. Buck. One good thing is the self-addressed stamped envelopes he sends. Just cross out his address, put in a new one of your choice and you save 33cents!! Yay!) All in all, well worth your $3 (Worldwide) and it's great to see a guy who's probably in his 40's or close to it, still enjoying and supporting the scene. Support him! Contact: **OLD GOAT ZINE**, C/O Kevin 1117 Purcell Ave, Cincinatti, Ohio 45205 USA

OUT OF LINE#1

Nice beginning effort here. This reminds me a lot of my first issue which was short on content but full of vigor, love and spirit. There is only one interview in here and it's with TWISTED TOWER DIRE. Everybody seems to love these guys! I may very well be the last Metalhead on Earth who hasn't heard their music yet. The reviews in here are probably one of the most detailed that I've ever seen. The editor is totally into lyrics and examines them with a fine tooth comb. (What the Hell does that mean?) If you're into lyrics than this is the place to be. There is only one demo review in here, with you guessed it, TWISTED TOWER DIRE. I know why this is. When you first start you don't receive any demos. Then when your flyers spread you have demos up the ass!! I look forward to see where Steve goes with this, as his plan is to release an 80 page 2nd issue! Out Of Line #1 is available for only $2 (Worldwide)! Contact: **OUT OF LINE**, P.O. Box 4905, Huntsville, AL 35815 USA

PERNICIOUS #6

The ever reliable Eamon brings us yet another slab of his Fun but ever so sloppy zine, Pernicious! Most people should be aware of this zine by now. Pernicious is both FREE and offers FREE advertising! What could be better than that? There are interviews with FERMENTO, KURO, Laurie Fortune: Owner of Eruptions From Below Metal Shop, FLESHTIZED, MACHETAZO, OBLITERATION and UPSIDE DOWN. The interviews are fun and humorous. Also included are a bunch of worthless reviews. The reviews are funny but you can't make sense of what Eamon is saying unless you have a Medical textbook handy. Part of the charm of this zine is the messiness and scrawlings all through it. I wonder if he does this on purpose? When he writes me letters there are no mistakes in them. Hey Eamon, ever hear of White out? Free! Contact: **Eamon**, 579 Clark Place, Uniondale, NY 11553 USA

PORTRAIT OF DEFIANCE #6

Good old Jack Botos! The Ultimate homophobe releases another issue of his sick zine. Portrait Of Defiance cracks me up with it's slant of anything that Jack doesn't like immediately becomes gay! I really admire his no pulling of punches even when he sounds like a complete ass. The reviews are hilarious although I think he's listening to different records than the rest of us. When you give excrement like MIDVINTER a 9 out of 10 and a GODLY record like PRIMAL FEAR a 1 out of 10 you have to question this man's sanity. The reviews are usually around a paragraph long but I like when he really hates shit and puts his thoughts into just one sentence. You want an example? ie: BIOHAZARD-*No Holds Barred-Live In Europe* His review reads: This band did a song with ONYX. 1 out of 10. Now that had me rolling on the floor. The only thing that took away from the fun of this was the boring interview done with racist and waste of paper Varg Virkenes. I hope he gets anally raped on a daily basis! All in all this zine is a swell deal at only $2 USA and $3 World for this silly thick papered 40 page zine! Contact: **PORTRAIT OF DEFIANCE**, C/O Jack Botos 1221 N.Johnson St., South Bend, IN 46628 USA

PROMETHEAN CRUSADE VOL. 1 #1

I recently met one of the dudes from this magazine. Either this guy is a snob or a shy, timid little mouse. I guess when you have a tough guy like me walk up to you, you would probably cower in fear as well. Ha Ha. While reading through this the first thing that struck me was that these cats have really open minds. That is a good thing. Interviews covered in here are CRADLE OF FILTH and ANGRA. The ANGRA interview is really GREAT. It seems the ANGRA guy doesn't worry about what he's saying. That makes for entertaining reading. Also included is an old-as-shit interview with CEMETERY. Once again, we also receive the Classic reviews of old Metal records. This concept has been done to death, yet, it's always one of my favorite sections to read. A shitload of wonderful Metal came out before you kids started buying it and this is a perfect way to unearth these treasures. The rest of this zine has accurate and enjoyable-to-read reviews and a dated-news section. One thing about having a "News" section in your magazine is that even if you write it the day you go to print, some fucker will be reading it like 10 months from now saying "Huh?" Get your news from the Internet, not Metal mags. Something that would have made the review section better than it even is, would be the inclusion of demo reviews. There was none! Ditto for zine reviews. One really cool feature was they have a Metal chart where they utilize all the bands that didn't get reviewed. It was a family tree linking Death to Hardcore, etc. Neat idea! This zine is free in the Philadelphia area or just send $2 Worldwide to: **PROMETHEAN CRUSADE**, C/O Mark Morton 119 King St., Pottstown, PA 19464 USA Phone# (610)326-3286
E-Mail: cokeman@bellatalntic.net
Web: www.prometheancrusade.com

PULL THE CHAIN NEWSLETTER #13

Only 6 pages in length but closing in at almost 100 reviews - and they aren't short reviews either but very concise! Also editor's notes and news. How do they pull this off in only 6 pages? Do you really need to ask? Get out your magnifying glasses and send for an issue today! By the way, it's free! Contact: **Georges Laforet**, 9, Rue du Saule, 5001 Belgrade, Belgium • Web: www.ping.be/pullthechain

ROCK HARD #134

This is another magazine that I've heard great things about but haven't had an opportunity to check out. At over 170 color pages, this is quite a fat mag! The color pictures throughout the magazine, most of which I haven't seen before, were sweet indeed. And the writing? The writing? Well, I couldn't read it. German again. Now this is no fanzine but rather a real magazine. This even comes with a FREE CD sampler from Dynamo! MONSTER MAGNET makes the cover of this issue and they have an interview inside along with JUDAS PRIEST, SLAYER, MERCYFUL FATE, DEEP PURPLE, DORO and many others. Also scene reports from Dynamo, VIRGIN STEELE and UDO. There are many reviews that I couldn't read but the point system is utilized as well, which was a real convenience for me. A lot to read or just to look at depending on where you were born and what classes that you took in school. Rock Hard is available for 8DM or write for price in your currency. Contact: **ROCK HARD**, Postfach 11 02 12, 44058 Dortmund, Germany

SATAN'S CANDY BASKET #3

Wow! What timing! As I released my third issue on the masses, Burt did as well. We also have even more in common. We both have an Inhumate interview and one with Bruce Campbell, although Burt took a more serious route with the interview than moi! I have to see if Burt is tapping my phone lines with these startling comparisons. With each issue of this always reader-friendly zine, Satan's Candy Basket seems to get better. Glossy cover on this bad boy as well. Over 300 reviews of music, movies, zine and live shows! Wow! I was hard-pressed to find a bad review. Doesn't Burt receive any bad material? I must be getting his, as well as mine. Also, tons of interviews with FEAR FACTORY, FLESHGRIND, GENITORTURERS, INSATANITY, JUNGLE ROT, LIVIDITY and lots more! As usual, Burt's passion for Metal shines through on here as he's a real fan boy which makes for perfect reading. Always recommended! Burt also has a kick ass distro so check that out as well. Contact: **Beowulf Productions**, 644 E.High St. Apt 2B, Pottstown, PA 19464 USA Phone#(610)718-9863 E-Mail: Beowolfco@aol.com

SALT FOR SLUGS VOL 2 # 3

Let's see where to begin...how 'bout a quick impression of me reading this zine...sssnnnooorrrre!! Yeah it was boring, to me at least. The only thing I found of interest was the B Movie reviews. There's a large article on WACO but I don't care about the people who died there. The way I look at it there's more oxygen for the rest of us. There's an interview with SiFu Raymond Fogg...I couldn't get through it. The zine is very dry-reading the ingredients in scrapple are more interesting. If you want this zine contact: **Burt Cocaine** at SFS, PO Box 50338, Austin, TX 78763 USA email: sfs1@flash.net • Website: www.saltforslugs.com. Singles issues $3 ppd, 1 year subscription (4 issues) $12 pp. Review by Jeremy "Editing" Staff

SILENCE DIARY (ENGLISH VERSION) #1

You would have a real hard time finding something negative about this zine. This zine sports not only a glossy cover but a glossy book cover as well. Although this magazine is from the Czech Republic, the editors toiled to make this impeccable English version. The English is better than in most American zines. Editor Petr Sebela is a real supporter of the Underground, thus that is primarily what is covered here. Interviews are with ANCIENT, COVENANT, DIE APOKALYPTISCHEN REITER (say that five times fast), FORGOTTEN SILENCE, *Godreah Zine* from England, DEPRESY, ABYSSOS, THINE, NAGELFAR, AGONY and MENHIR. Interviews are a bit untraditional but not quite as goofy as the dumb-ass *Metal Rules! Magazine*. You also get a zine report courtesy of Robert from *Drunk And Disorderly zine*. Of course you also get about 75 music reviews and 20 zine reviews, some nice articles and a Mexican Scene report. This zine is available for only $2 Worldwide. How they do this is beyond me! This zine should be selling for $5 or $6. Send them $2 ASAP, if not then you're a complete moron and I'll beat you with a Dunkin Donuts cream machine. Just try me. Contact: **SILENCE DIARY**, C/O Petr Debela, Mutenicka 7, 628 00 BRNO, Czech Republic E-Mail: silence@post.cz Web Page: www.mujweb.cz/www/silence

SKULL SESSION #35

My main problem with this magazine isn't the magazine itself but a support issue. Although the editor speaks of his great support of the underground, he doesn't seem to support other zines in any capacity. When I received the package from him there were no flyers and the magazine contains no zine reviews or contacts of any kind for fellow zinesters. Skull Session has been around for quite some time. The writing is intelligent and the reviews are plentiful. Interview-wise there are ones with SEPULTURA, MOTORHEAD, SLAYER, MORBID ANGEL (Wahhhh...), CRISIS, CANDIRA, SPEEDBALL, etc. Also featured is a report on the Milwaukee Metalfest and Lollapalooza. For lazy people that don't like to read, then you won't like this. It's very text heavy and light on photos. Thrown into the mix is a prison scene report by an actual prisoner. I don't know what this guy did but I think he bored somebody to death. Zzzzzzz... This guy sounds like a politician and doesn't even speak of Metal. If you like prison fun then watch Oz on HBO! The best damn show on TV!!! This zine is $3 Worldwide contact: **SKULL SESSION** C/O Brad Mitchell Box 1295 Vernon, BC V1T6N7, Canada E-Mail: juggernaut@bc.sypatico.ca

SKULL SESSION #36

Here's more from this Canuck Metal zine. This issue has interviews with PRO-PAIN, VOIVOD, GUTSHOT, MACHINE HEAD and a bunch of others. Also, there is a lovely interview with exotic dancer Athena. Athena's interview focuses on the conceptual side of Athena and the misconceptions people have of dancers. Who gives a rat's ass? If you're going to have a dancer in your pages then get her to show the pink!!! I want to hear about how she fantasizes about getting rammed in her booty from the patrons. C'mon, don't take the fun of strip clubs away from us. Sheesh... Once again, we have plenty to read in here and the reviews are rich in reading. One thing that bothers me is the excessive amount of Rap reviews in here, along with Rap-Core and Rap-Metal. The only Rap that rules besides Ice Cube is Rappaport. I don't mind the occasional Rap review but they are starting to overwhelm this zine. Enough is enough, capice? This issue is available for $3 (Worldwide) or get both #35 and #36 for $5 Worldwide. (See address above!!)

SNAKEPIT #3

After 37 hours of reading this issue, my eyes are fucking killing me. I've finally finished reading *Snakepit*. It's over 80 pages long, with microscopic print and it was a joy to read. There are more interviews in this issue than I've ever seen in a Metal magazine. Half-assed interviews they aren't, a study would be a better description with lots of great photos (Classic and Current) that really top them off like the proverbial cherry. In this issue you get big names, old dudes and the New Breed but one thing is certain, they are all True Metal bands. Want some examples? How about DIO, RIOT, JAGUAR, VIRGIN STEELE, OCTOBER 31, STEEL ASSASSIN, WIZARD (My buddies!) and OUTCAST. There are of course many more, much to much for my lazy ass to count. You want reviews? They are there as well. In fact you get the strangest review of *Metal Rules!* #1 that I've ever seen. Old School Metal fans, this is a one stop shop for you. Snakepit is highly recommended and well worth the $5 (Worldwide) that it costs. #4 is out now and that issue is $8 (worldwide). Contact: **SNAKEPIT MAGAZINE** P.O. Box 210212, 28222 Bremen, Germany

SOCIOPATHIC DESPAIR #2

It's been a year, but he's back. Yes, old Political, fag hating Mike is back. This time he's kicking it Hardcore style. The majority of this issue is Hardcore but plenty of Metal is still present. The interviews are great because they mix important info with controversial questions. This means great reading. Interviews are with ONE LIFE CREW, COLD AS LIFE, DENIED and INHUMAN plus tons of reviews and of course part 2 of the worthless Unabomber manifesto. A fun read even though my viewpoints and Mike's are complete opposites. Only $2 (Worldwide) Contact: **SOCIOPATHIC DESPAIR**, P.O. Box 10025, Bowling Green, KY 42102-4825

SPEAR #2

Yikes! A cover with "Hail the Goat" on it, along with a guy proclaiming "Fuck You, God!". That's not very nice, is it? Hey, another Metal zine from a chick. It's really cool seeing all these women preaching the Metal word. Spear reminds me of *Satan's Sweet Slavery Zine* (A cross between a poetry, Satanism and music magazine). The difference here is that Spear leans more in the musical direction. There are similar aspects throughout the zine like crazy news, newspaper clippings and poems taking up a full page with art on the other side. Spear is very well written, almost to the point that I was a little nervous sending my zine in for a review. In her review section she was pointing out all the little grammar fuck-ups that the zines reviewed had. Shit, even after my Editors and I proofread this fucker 900 times we still miss the occasional to (too) or their (there). Also included you get Metal news, interviews with DEMONIC, DARKEN BELENOS, VITAL REMAINS, a couple of show reviews, zine and book reviews, musical reviews and label and band contacts. My two favorite parts of the zine was an article on Ab Sinthe. Ab Sinthe is an alcoholic beverage that cause some very strange results. Also includes a recipe for the potent drink! The quintessiental part of the zine is the Black Metal glossary. If you wandered about what all these words meant like Marduk, Moloch, Nifelheim, Pyogenisis and Ygdrasill, those any many others will be answered. Check this out for only $3 USA or $4 Rest Of World. Contact: **SPEAR**, C/O Kristie Snyder, P.O. Box 691, Orange, VA 22960 USA

SPIKED IMPALEMENT #8

Spiked Impalement is a 16 page, comic sized, newsprint zine. The layout is pretty crappy. There is an interview with DECEASED (Who I'm getting sick of reading about even though they rule!), BRUTAL TRUTH (Who suck!), SCEPTER (Is this interview handwritten?) and LEPRA (Not Def.) You get a 2 page list of one of the writers favorite Italian zombie and cannibal movies and a small list of zines. The best part of this zine is the music reviews. The reviews are honest and harsh yet are hard to read because they are written in micro-print with a horrible printing job. This zine is a little too half-assed for my liking but hey, the thing is only 75 cents Worldwide so the dudes not making any money. Check it out if you want. Contact: **SPIKED IMPALEMENT**, C/O David Arnett, 329 Terrace Dr., Pauls Valley, OK 73075 USA

SPIN CITY (HEAVY MAGAZINE) #3

Yeah, another Killer looking Metal magazine that I can't read. 68 pages of Metal fun written in whatever language the people of Belgium speak. I can tell you that it looks like it's really cool. No joke. I think it might rule. The magazine seems to run the gamut of Metal and seems to be pretty recent from the ads that are placed in the magazine. There's also news, lots of reviews and interviews. The interview/articles are with CRADLE OF FILTH, CANNIBAL CORPSE, UNION, ANGEL CORPSE, PARIAH, IRON MAIDEN, JUDAS PRIEST and MARDUK, just to name a few. Also video game reviews and a report about a radio station. At least the reviews have a numbered rating, so you can somewhat figure out what they thought of it. If anything, you can check out all these cool photos, some are even in color for your enjoyment. This mag is as professional as you can get! Contact: **SPIN CITY**, C/O Morbid Geert, Vrijwilligersstraat, 2340 Beerse, Belgium E-Mail:Carlc@mail.dma.be

STATIC ZINE#18

My biggest gripe with this zine is the review that I got. The review is as follows: "#1 Full size, fold over pages." What the hell kind of review is that? I think the page should be called zine contacts not zine reviews. Static has been around for a Decade. That's a long time. Do I have a point to make with that? No, I'm not even sure why I wrote that. Although this zine is kind of sloppy (It could really benefit from some layout help.) it's a decent read. Interviews featured are with ROUND AND A DISTANT FEW, RESURRECTURIS, QUO VADIS, FLESHGRIND, FLESHCRAWl (Is a pattern starting here?), MORTICIAN, FALL, BLACK VEIN PROPHECY, ODIUM, SEVERANCE and PROPHECY. Also a bunch of reviews, some old news, pornographic art and a story about fun stuff learned about the Mayan civilization in History Class. Very enjoyable was the journal from the group THE END. Those guys are pretty wild. Static is not the best Metal magazine but it's good and very reliable. That's worth a lot in today's society! Available for $4 worldwide. Contact: **STATIC ZINE**, 115 E. River Rd., Kawkawlin, MI 48631 USA • E-Mail:staticzine@aol.com
web://members.tripod.com/~Staticzine/index.html

UMBRELLA VOL. 21 #1

Josh, one more time. This is the longest brochure I've ever read. To put it simply this is an Art zine with no Art! Get it? Me neither. I guess Jeff thought that since I'm an artist for *Metal Rules!* I might be into this. Or maybe that dirty bastard didn't want to read it himself. This zine has been around for 21 years and it is filled to the brim with information. It covers such things as exhibtions, art book reviews and book dealers. All of which is very statistical and void of opinion. I don't know, maybe I'm not snooty enough to enjoy this zine. All I care about is what comic books come out on Wednesday and who Chris Benoit is gonna cripple this week. This zine is dry. It's more fun to read the local train schedule. They have a section of artist obituaries, but other than that it's not much for laughs. Although, this will complete my spitball collection! HOO-HAA! It's $20 U.S. bucks for a year subscription. Contact **Judith A Hoffberg**, P.O.Box 3640, Santa Monica, CA 90408 USA.

THE UNDERGROUND REVIEW #19

You can only say so much about something that is 4 pages in length. Fortunately, it's all good. With 20 articulate, amusing reviews and a plethora of up to the minute Metal news, this is a fine read. Issued 6 times yearly, you can get a subscription for only an Abe ($5) Worldwide. Or if you want a sample send a Cannabis Grower ($1) . Prices are for Worldwide! Contact: **THE UNDERGROUND REVIEW: An International Metal Newsletter**, 253 College St., Suite 463, Toronto, Canada M5T 1 R5

THE WHITE DOT #9

What a unique concept! Have you ever thought of what life would be like without TV? We as a society are addicted to it. I myself am not. I'm addicted to the computer. The only shows I watch are "OZ" , "Where Are They Now?" and "Dating shows". That and I watch movies. White Dot is about how much fun and how much more the World has to offer besides TV. Articles featured are about playing darts, taping stuff that you'll never watch and about hatred of commercials. If you're reading this, you may be one of those people that like to think and don't need the tube to do it. The White Dot is only $2 (Worldwide!) Contact: **THE WHITE DOT**, P.O. Box 577257, Chicago, IL 60657-7257 USA

savage savage savage Email

Up First we have Steve Blaze. We "accidently" mistook him for Blaze Bayley, you know the shithead limey that ruined IRON MAIDEN. Read on as Jeff torments this poor guy.

Jeff starts...

You ruined Iron Maiden! You suck!
Love,
Fatty Arbuckle

Mr. Blaze retorts...

Who are you trying to reach? This is Steve Blaze fromerly of Lillian axe now with Near Life Experience Not Blaze Bailey . . . Steve Blaze. NLE is Near Life Experience

Jeff says...

C'mon and be a man and stand up for yourself! You ruled when you were in Wolfsbane but really sucked up Maiden! What the hell is a Lillian axe?
Jeff(Whoops...Where did my Fatty Arbuckle persona go?)

Mr. Blaze extremely frustrated now...

Jeff,
You have the wrong EMAIL ADDRESS.... BLAZENLE belongs to Steve Blaze who was never in Wolsbane or Maiden.

Jeff still going...

Ha Ha ! I heard you finally got kicked out of Maiden! Is that why you keep denying you're him? And you never answered me, what is a Lillian Axe?
Jeff

Mr. Blaze sez...

Jeff,
This mailbox belongs to Steve Blaze the founder of Lillian Axe and Near Life Experience. He has never been in Iron Maiden. He is from New Orleans. With Lillian Axe he had 6 albums and has recently released his first CD with Near Life Experience. I repeat he was never in IRON MAIDEN. Please desist with these mailings as you are mailing the wrong person.

Jeff answers like only he can...

Huh?
(NOTE: Jeff just finished interviewing GODSMACK. As it turns out the drummer from GODSMACK was also the drummer for LILLIAN AXE...)

This is from some uptight dicknose. He's nobody famous and never will be. He runs some Metal Promotions thing but objects to other people promoting their stuff. I sent him a ***Metal Rules!*** ad and this what I got in return.

DnEcSnArT@aol...
stop sending me e-mails of this shit...that must be the worst name possible for a zine, what do 12 year olds run it or something?

Jeff fires away...

Yep.
That's why it's perfect for your retarted ass!
Jeff

DnEcSnArT@aol

Uh huh, i can tell how smart you are as a "METAL RULES" zine.. it's spelled retarded and by the way...i'm not the only person who feels the same about your corny zine, take a look at the death/black metal board.

jeff

Oh you must use Ebonics! Should it be Metal Rulez? Is that correct?
Jeff
PS - What the hell is the death/black metal board?

DnEcSnArT@aol irately answers...

why would i use ebonics? (Why would you use the shift key to type capitals - Jeremy) ***you're not making any sense man....and why sHould it be Metal Rulez? regardless it's an extremely homosexual title...death/black metal board is only for aol users but all the screen names i saw on it were mostly from the board, a wise choice would be to stop sending your stupid e-mails to people because your zine is lookin like a complete joke....i'm finished wasting my time with you now have a nice day***

Jeff sums up...

Oh man not another one of you sad ass homophobes. I guess I didn't know who I was dealing with. By the way I'm married with children. When's the last time you've had a women? Was it during the Reagan administration? Man, my readers are gonna love you. Your going to sell me a few thousand more than I usually do.
Thanks Bro.
Jeff

No respones. Hmmm....Is this a pattern?

We've all heard about how Yngwie supposedly beats his wife.. thought this would be a perfect oppurtunity for Jeffery X to show his True colors...Literally...

Jeff

Like James Brown, Billy Dee Williams, Ike Turner & Richard Pryo before you,I congrat you on showing your wife EXACTLY what he place am! 'Dat ho wanna vote?! Smack her around! 'Dat bitch wann go out wit her ho friendz? Slap that ho up some for! Go for it! Sho nuff!
Fight the power Litta G
Jeffery X

Anne (Club Director for Yngwie Malmsteen)...

Sorry, your message is completely incomprehensible.

ffery X eloquently writes...

hatchu talking about beeyotch? I's going to open a can of whoop ass n your shoes!
ffery x

tangely there was no more response..Go figure?
EFF'S NOTE: I'm not prejudice. For my next Savage Email I plan to e an exaggerated white hillbilly with no teeth.)

---

hadn't e-mailed my old buddy Erik Turner from Warrant lately so I nt him and his family a Beautiful Holiday card! By the way Malibu is is dog...

ff starts off...
ello Old pal!!!
st wanted to wish you and yours, and even Miami Happy Holidays!
ell Jani to save some fruitcake for you!

ove and Kisses
eff and the staff of ***Metal Rules! Magazine***

Mr. Turner replied with some beautiful computer generated art-ork...

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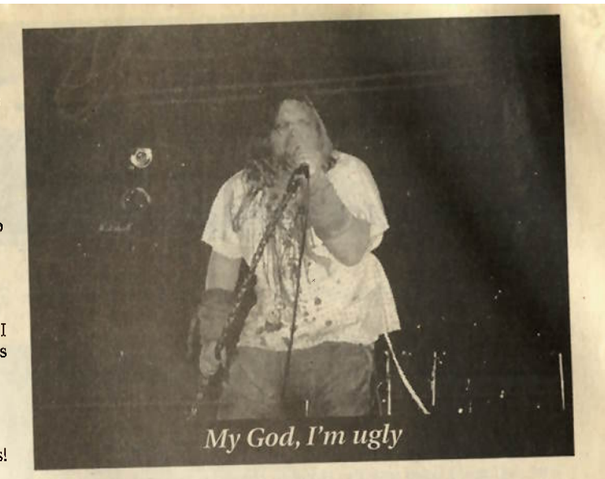
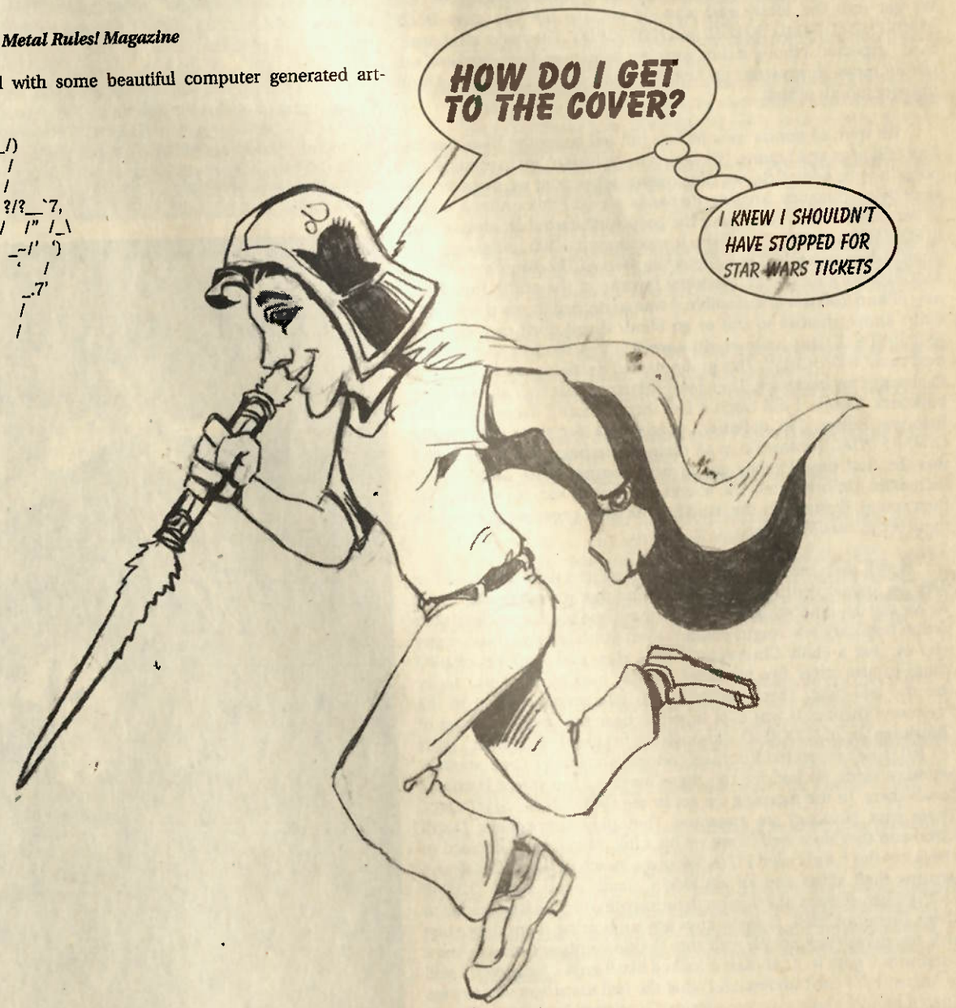
ET

love this guy!!!


My God, I'm ugly



METAL FEST REPORT

by Jeremy Pellegrin

The March Metal Meltdown...where to begin...ah, I know - IT WAS FREAKIN' COLD!! I don't mean that "put on a sweater cus it's cold". I'm talkin' shrinkage cold! Big Jim and the Twins look like an acorn in a turtle neck.

Anyway, I have two words to describe the event - it fuckin' rocked!! I'm giving ya "fuckin'" for free. I never saw so much leather in my life. There were some excellent bands there. Let's start off with Friday "the Arrival".

We finally make it to scenic, and I use that term loosely, Asbury Park. Jeff and I head into the Hotel to check in. Joe and Angus stayed in the car because they were havin' forbidden monkey love in Joe's car. We get into the lobby and who do we see but the guys from AMORPHIS, DIMMU BORGIR and HYPOCRISY. They were all shorter than I expected. I thought they grew 'em taller over there. Anyhow, we get our room, threw water on Angus and Joe, and got set to head into the very mouth of Hell.

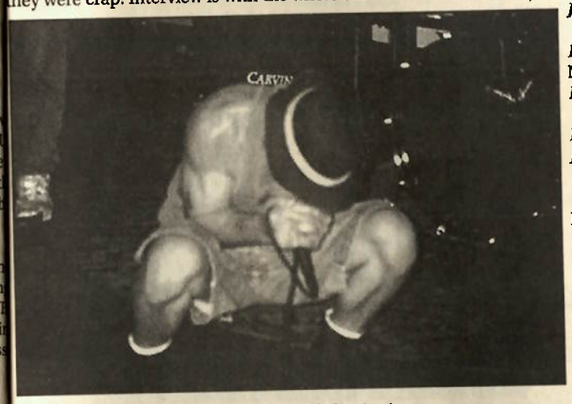
We were all gonna wear jackets but Jeff being the Uber Genius kept telling us and I quote, "It's gonna be so fuckin' hot in there, you'll poop in your pants." So, we didn't wear jackets and we froze. Friday went by pretty quick. My favorite bands played Friday. After a bunch of bands that I can't remember the good stuff started. At around 9:00 ICED EARTH came on...maybe it was around 10:00...whatever, the point is they rocked! Go buy *Something Wicked This Way Comes*! Then AMORPHIS came on. My personal favorite of the entire fest. Their new album *Tuonela* is incredible. I was so excited to see them that I didn't know whether to shit or go blind. If you don't own the new AMORPHIS CD may a camel with a weak kidney sleep in your bed. Up next came HYPOCRISY. This group beared a striking resemblance to the back of my backpack. Then I was informed that I fell asleep on my backpack. Ooops. I did catch a few songs before I departed for the Rainbow Bridge. I'm definitely gonna look for their CD. Finally, DIMMU BORGIR came on in all their corpse paint and leather. This was the first time I really got to hear Dimmu. They were fuckin' incredible. Unfortunately the sound guy sucked sac. He screwed up their sound. Fortunately the band has the stage presence to over look these technical difficulties.

We all then retreated back to the hotel and were serenaded to sleep by Angus's snoring. We awoke to find that it's still freakin' cold! We ate our days rationing of Matzoh - that's one big ass cracker!! I felt like an honorary Jew. Angus couldn't even finish his and this is a guy who can eat a Philly Cheesesteak, fries, slaw and a bucket of BBQ Wings in just under five minutes!! Anyway back to the Fest...today was the real treat. There was to be an 80's revisited thing in the Paramont Theatre. It was cool to get to hear the orignal version of "Blitzkrieg" by BLITZKREIG. Although I didn't like RAVEN at all...don't tell Jeff. I just recovered from the concussion, I don't need another. Saturday kinda sucked for me there was way too many Hardcore bands there. In the morning we got to see GARDEN OF SHADOWS. These guys (and gal) are awesome! They play Atmospheric Death Metal and they do it well. Then we hit a lull. Angus and I decided to check out this band called PUYA. We saw a bunch of Death Metal guys wearing their shirts and an ass kickin' Death band called DIVINE EMPIRE had stickers of PUYA on their instruments. So, we decided to check them out. Hell, if death guys are supporting them they must kick ass, right? Fuck no! We walk into the Convention center to see a band with 9 guys in it. At least it looked like 9 guys...whatever. I said to Angus that I can't understand what the hell the singer was saying. Then it hit me! These guys are Mexican Hardcore! Fuck me in the ass and call me stupid. Needless to say we walked out. Oh, by the way PUYA is opening up for GWAR. At least they are in Philly. Towards the end of the night NAPALM DEATH came on. Yay! I love Napalm. They rock and Barney dresses like a retard. There was only two more bands to go then it would be time to take the great trek home. RAVEN and SEPULTURA. RAVEN wasn't cup of tea really. I like 80's Power Metal but, these guys...just av comes to mind. The singing was a little too high for my ears. SEPU TURA wasn't as bad as I expected them to be without Max. There definite lacking "thickness" in the guitars. The singing, on the ot hand, wasn't bad. Derrick Green does a good job. He's not Max b hell you can't replace a voice like that.

At this point Jeff said that we're staying through the last ban Wrong thing to say Joe flipped out on Jeff. It was quite entertainin you ask me. So, we saw a bit of SEPULTURA and too much of RAVE We then left and headed home. Angus and I went right for the di while Jeff went home to think how much work I've done on this iss of the magazine. He's always yelling at me...

SLUDGE INTERVIEW

Here's some Hardcore for your silly asses! The Brand that these guys do is certainly special and that's why I interviewed them. There are no pictures for this interview because unlike the music this band plays they were crap! Interview is with the whole band!



Metal Rules! Please explain your humble beginnings.

Jim: There's nothing humble about our beginnings.

Dan: Jim and I were friends previous to the band. He asked me to stop by and try some lyrics.

MR: Describe your sound to all the Rivet heads out there.

Jim: Angry, agressive riffs with plenty of chops, off beat drum blasts and groovy rythm, all followed with "In your face" type vocals.

Dan: Ugly in your face. (Damn straight!-Jeff)

MR: Why do you keep releasing these little tapes and records instead of going gung ho and recording a CD?

Dan: Because that's what we did. (OK tough guy!-Jeff)

Jim: Mainly for 2 reasons. The first being the all mighty dollar an second is more or less "testing the waters". We are a New band with a New sound and to go "Gung Ho" and spend money on a CD without knowing whether this style of Music would sink or float seemed to be a bad marketing call. (Not to me! If you have confidence in your music then you want it sounding as best as you can! It's worth the extra dollars!!-Jeff)

MR: I know that most of you guys collect action figures. Do you like set them up and play good guy and bad guy?

Dave: It all depends in the mood I'm in at that moment. I have a lot of them hanging on my walls and then I have doubles all over my room either fucking each other or fighting in sword battles.

Jim: Right now Typhoid Mary is getting it doggie style from Spawn 3's trusty wolf all while performing oral sex on the Attack Spawn. There are many onlookers gathered around. (Well, if you can't get it yourself, your toys may as well!-Jeff)

Dan: Nope!

MR: Two of you guys are brothers. How does that work out for you?

Jim: I think the brother thing is a plus!

Dan: Aliens? (Uhhh...OK Dan. That makes sense.-Jeff)

MR: Ever think of letting your mom join the band? What instrument would she play?

Dave: Most likely. I guess she would play the skin flute. (These guys live too close to me to go anywhere with this answer-Jeff)

Jim: No! Never thought of letting Mom join the band. There are some skin flute positions for mothers looking for their position in the band.(Ahhh yes...Mom and the skin flute. Hold on a minute ralfffffff.....bleck .aaaargghhhhh.ech...(spit) (spit) -Jeff)

Dan: Sure. We'll find somewhere to put her. (How about on Skin flute? Human organ? -Jeff)

MR: Ever hear your parents having sex?

Dave: Nope! And if I ever did, I think I would have to run and hide far as I can.

Jim: No! I never heard my parents having sex. I guess that's why Dad bought stock in duct tape.

Dan: Nope.

MR: Do you really believe that Brutalist is a word?

Dave: Why yes I do. I've seen many people use that word before. Remember, I'm from the sticks of South Jersey. Anything goes.

Dan: Never really thought about it.

Jim: Do you really believe that Korn is spelled with a K and a backwars R or are you just hooked on phonics? (Neither. I'm just educated. Try "most Brutal" guys!-Jeff)

MR: You guys are from the Jersey Shore. How come you don't seem influenced by the Boss and Bon Jovi?

Dave: Why the hell did you ask that question? I fucking hate both of them and they should both hang themselves with wire hangers. (Because they're from the Jersey Shore and so are you!-Jeff)

Dan: You mean we don't?

Jim: The Boss and Bon Jovi are influences. They influenced me to wear ear plugs and start riots.

MR: Ever bring any of your groupies under the boardwalk? Did they tell their teachers on you?

Dave: I was trying bro. Just couldn't get them to believe I was going to be a rock star one of these days and Well, yes they did tell my teacher and then she wanted in on this boardwalk thing as well. She was jealous.

Dan: I was the teacher.

Jim: Nuff said! No, they didn't tell their teachers. They're still under the boardwalk. Blunt objects work wonders.

MR: Would you rather eat Phylis Dillers ass or make out with your brother?

Dave: Well, I guess it would have to be Phylis Dillers ass. At least it would taste like chicken!

Jim: I'd eat the old biddys ass and send her the bill.

Dan: Neither.

MR: What do you guys do for swell times and giggles when you're not playing? What are each of your real jobs?

Dave: I do many things in my spare time. Smoke cigarettes and lots of them. Hang out with some friends, go to shows, collect action figures, drink beer, and so on. I work at a local record shop.

Dan: Smoke Pot, Fuck, roller blade, enjoy every day I'm here. (Where?-Jeff).

Jim: I'm a carpet installer.

MR: What do you believe are the most underrated and overrated bands in the Underground excluding yourselves?

Jim: This question is like a loaded cigar, better left unlit.

Dave: Underrated I would have to say...Krieg, Misura, Mortal Decay, N.O.C., 1/4 Microbomb, Burnside, etc. I really don't have any overrated bands that I hate right now. But I'm sure I will very soon.

Dan: I don't care. I'm not in competition, I'm just trying to get a point across. (Good for you man!-Jeff)

MR: Worst and Best Zines and why?

Dave: Best zines. Metal Rules! (funny as hell), Sociopathic Despair, Toilet Water Zine. Worst zine. Devil's Triangle (it sucks ass), Brutalized (gave us a bad review and said we were adidas wearing faggots). As you know we are not wearing adidas anything.

Continued on page 64

HADES

INTERVIEW

Hades! How cool! These guys fucking jammed in the 80's! When they're New Killer CD came out, I leapt at the chance to interview! That's right leapt!! The phone rings and it's Dan from Hades! I never thought to imagine when I listened to these cassettes a dozen years ago that they would eventually be calling my house to talk to me! Ha Ha! We get introductions out of the way and talk fondly of the Old Club Bonnie's that used to exist around here.Then I handle all possible problems since I fuck up somehow on every interview that I do.

MetalRules!: How did Hades begin back in the early 80's?

Dan Lorenzo: Well in 1978 I picked the name Hades from Greek Mythology because I was taking Greek Mythology and Hades was the God of the Underworld. I thought the Underworld meant Mafia and being a Proud Italian I thought it sounded cool and said "you know what someday I'm gonna play guitar in a band called Hades." So a few months later I started playing the guitar of course nothing really came of it until 1982. We put out our first 45 (That's right we are talking vinyl here-Angus). ***Then we had a few line up changes. The first real Hades record was "Resisting Success" which came out in 1987. That had Allan on vocals, Scott Lapage on guitar, now he is on bass, and the second record was "At First you Don't Succeed" had Ed Furman on guitar, he's still with us today. I'm doing so many interviews that I forgot the original question? The early days right...*** (I giggle like a schoolgirl as I crack open a beer indicating that he's correct! -Jeff) ***We started off as a cover band before Allan was in the band. We were like half cover and the more and more we started doing originals the more I enjoyed writing songs and enjoyed getting a positive reaction from the audience doing my songs instead of songs by Judas Priest or whoever else.***

MR: So you got the name Hades basically because you're a guido?

Dan: Yeah, Pretty much. I'm an Italian boy and I liked the name Hades and when I found out later what it meant I was really bummed when my mom's Christian friends thought that it meant Hell which it certainly doesn't. It was mistranslated in the Jewish Testament. But it's funny when you're fifteen you don't want any controversy at least I didn't. I think the name has served us well and kind of fits the music to a degree. It's funny sometimes bands just have horrible names cause you figure they're running out but I've been proud of both Hades and Non-fiction the names and what they represent.

MR: What actually lead to the break up the first time?

Dan: We were touring Europe in 1989. It was a really badly booked tour. We played 18 shows in 19 days which is fine. But we were in a van that should hold 9 people and had like 12 people. And there was this band called Midas Touch opening. Which was Patrick Wiering of Misery Loves Company. After the third day in the tour we were playing in Lubbock, Germany and the roadies went home. They had to go back to school. So we were like "this is ridiculous what do you mean there's no roadies." We were playing these far out of the way places. The band had previous spats before but when you're thrown into a van together, you're playing 18 shows in 19 days for very little money and the attendance wasn't there because we were playing these out of the way places it just wasn't fun anymore. I realized this a few times in my life, I like to do everything in moderation. I can't go on tour for 3 weeks and be a happy person, it's too monotonous. Even in '93 when Non-Fiction toured with Overkill and Savatage. That was awesome but, I wasn't nervous from the fifth show on and when you're not nervous to go on stage you kind of lose your edge. Anything repetitious just kind of bores me I don't know if that's a good thing or a bad thing. But I think it has helped me as a songwriter. But Hades broke up in '89 because it just wasn't fun anymore

MR: OK, After almost a decade what made you get back together again?

Dan: Well we did Non-Fiction for a couple of years. Did you hear of Non-fiction before?

MR: Yeah, I'm very familiar with them.

Dan: I did that for a few years. That was my baby. That was my heart, the kind of music. Allan and I weren't even talking. We both work at Steppin' Out Magazine, which is a weekly entertainment magazine here in North Jersey.

MR: Oh Yeah.

Dan: I hadn't even played guitar in 2 years. I got engaged, I sold all my equiptment. I was really fed up with the music scene and the way guys in bands are. Then a year ago my friend had a computer and he went to Yahoo and punched in my name, I thought there would be nothing but there were all these beautiful Hades websites and it really flattered me. You know it was pretty damn nice, so me and Allan started talking about releasing our own version of "If at First You Don't Succeed". You know re-releasing it with some bonus tracks and remastering it. Then my buddy loaned me a guitar and I wrote the opening riff to "Savior Self" and that was it everything took off from there.

MR: What was the problem between you and Allan that caused so much controversy with you two?

Dan: We were probably so tight for so long, we were living together, working together, in a band together it was probably just too much of a good thing. We were kind of like brothers you know we just needed a break. When I quit Non-fiction I know those other guys in the band were not thrilled that I was done playing. Every now and then people would threaten "oh no I don't want to be in the band anymore." When it really goes down it's kind of scary to the other people kind of relying on you maybe for their happiness or their careers or whatever. Probably some minor things but you know it's funny but we're closer than ever. With me and Allan it's either all or nothing we're either best friends or not talking or best friends. Those are the three options. (That's 2 isn't it -Jeff)

MR: I've been in that situation sometimes when you're living with a friend and then working with them it's almost like being married.

Dan: Yeah it's funny, Scott Lapage was just reading an interview we did for some other magazine and it was me and Allan and he always said me and Allan were like husband and wife. I think I'm the husband in this case.

MR: I hope so. Does he know that? (We both laugh.)

Dan: Yes, I think he has relegated himself to that.

MR: That's cool, as long as he knows. Does he wears the skirt and everything?

Dan: Yeah.

MR: OK that's cool. Do you want to explain to me the concept of the new record?

Dan: Not really but thanks though.

MR: You don't want to? (Is he serious?)

Dan: OK. This is my ninth proper record of my life and it's the first one I've gotten tatooed on my arm. I really believe what it means. You know when you interview a band and they say it's the labels fault, it's the publicist's fault, it's the manager's fault. You know we've become a nation that doesn't take any blame. We're a blameless society. A lot of people say I got fired from that job because the boss is an asshole and then you find out the guy was late seven times in a row for work, he was unproductive. It kind of goes back to the saying "God helps those that help themselves." People just have to take responsibility for their lives. It's no coincidence that I have a good paying job and a band with a record deal. I worked for those things in life. I think people make too many excuses and you can't look to the government to bail you out, whether it be welfare or whatever else. It's not my fault if you have 16 kids out of wedlock and you have nothing for dinner, why do I have to pay such high taxes for that? At the other end of the spectrum people pray for this and pray for that, they think Jesus or God is Santa Claus and he is going to drop off these little magical gifts at your house if you pray extra hard. I've found out that doesn't work either. Again "God helps those that help themselves." So that is what Savior Self means to me

MR: Cool. Let me just tell you what a moron I am that is interviewing you today.

Dan: Are you recording this?

MR: Five minutes before I got on the phone with you I said, "oh Save Your Self".

Dan: Oh really.

MR: (Laugh) I just saw Savior Self. It just didn't come to me. My feeble mind just didn't pick it up.

Dan: That's kind of cool. There's nothing wrong with that.

MR: I'm very honest though.

Dan: Yeah me too. That's why I formed Non-fiction. Guys in bands are a bunch of bullshitters. Lawyers and guys in bands and politicians are the biggest scumbags in the world. That's why I picked the name Non-fiction.

MR: To be true to yourself.

Dan: Yeah. (Man, Dan was so impressed with me at this point that he almost passed out! -Jeff) ***I had a manager when we started Non-fiction, a big time manager, good guy, he says "Alright Dan in all your interviews you say you grew up listening to AC/DC, Cheap Trick, and Aerosmith. Don't say that. It's not cool to say you listened to MC5 and some other band". I'm starting a band called Non-fiction and the first thing you want me to do is fucking lie in the biography! This is not gonna work out.***

MR: Cool. I understand man. Do you feel that the new stuff is where Hades left off or an extension of Non-fiction or both maybe?

Dan: It definetly where Hades left off. You're obviously gonna have some elements of Non-fiction just because I was the main music writer for both bands. But what I consciously tried to do was, it's very very easy for me to write just like ten Non-fiction songs, or to pick up the guitar tomorrow tune the E string down and write a Non-fiction song. I like to challenge myself. It's funny I was speaking to Pete Steele about this a few months ago saying, "Could you write another Carnivore record?" (His band before Type O Negative). ***He's like "Oh I just couldn't get into that frame of mind where I was ten years ago," and you know he's probably a more talented guy than me*** ("Don't mistake lack of talent for genius" -Angus). ***I think I could put myself where I was ten years ago. I listen to some of the music I listened to ten years ago and if I wrote three riffs and one of them souned like Non-fiction or Dan 1998 I'd say that's no good I want to go back to the old school. I'm a pretty prolific writer but I wanted to put out a Hades record. To me this is definitely a Hades record.***

MR: You wouldn't believe how many people don't know about Carnivore.

Dan: Yeah? (Very suprised.)

MR: Yeah I talk about it all the time but people are like what are you talking about? They have no idea what I am speaking of.

Dan: Yeah. How old are you?

MR: I'm 31.

Dan: I just turned 36. So I mean you can't get on people for being young. I was there from the begining. I was there when Metallica was playing to twelve people in New Jersey. Only because of my age. I know people 21 that have never seen Cliff Burton live, it's not their fault.

MR: (Interupting. Only my 1st time so far. Usually I've done it 10 times at 5 minutes into convo mode!) Yeah. It sounds weird. I guess he doesn't talk about it in interviews. That people are not familiar with it.

Dan: Right.

MR: How are the new guys working out? I know the one guy isn't new but?

Dan: Yeah the only new guy is Dave. And Dave is really awesome because he's eleven years younger than me. What's great about him is he works in a bar called "Aldo's."

MR: (Interupting again, sorry, I was excited!) I was just going to ask is that guy a bouncer or something.

Dan: He's a bouncer, man.

MR: I knew it as soon as I looked at him! That was one of my questions.

Dan: He's actually lost some weight and he's even more muscular now. But it's cool because I don't have the tolerance to hang out with young kids in clubs at this point in my life, at least on a regular basis. And I wonder if I lose touch with whats going on exactly but you know you watch MTV and that doesn't give you a good idea because all you see is Rap and Hip-Hop. Which is fine but it's not the kind of Rap and Hip-Hop I listen to that is on MTV. Dave really let's me know what going on, on the street level. He has a lot of young friends into Hardcore and Death Metal and he's turning them onto Hades so he's really been an asset to me for that reason alone.

MR: So he's bringing a 90's flavor to the band?

Dan: Yeah he thinks so. I never thought I wrote corny music. I write all styles of music. I think I've written a couple of records that had to come out right after they were recorded might have been thought of as way ahead of their time. Yeah it's nice to have someone young to validate (Dan has a little troublle getting this word out. Maybe he's getting liquored up like me or he's choking on some Good and Plenty's-Jeff) ***what your doing musically in 1999.***

MR: That's so funny that he's a bouncer cause I wrote that down and thought "oh he's gonna think I'm ridiculous for asking this question." (Why Am I telling him this again? He was impressed the first time now he's thinking to himself "Yeah, Bouncer...Bouncer..Shut the fuck up kid, I have 30 more fucking interviews to do.")

Dan: We've all seen him bounce about three people at a time. He doesn't take much shit. He's a real nice guy. He's the last guy in the world to want to start a fight but if people are trying to mess around in his club he'll throw them out on their ass.

MR: What club does he work at again?

Dan: Aldo's. It's in Lindhurst, New Jersey.

MR: One look at the guy and it was obvious. So everybody is getting along good?

Dan: Yeah. And what's really great about it is five, six years ago Non- fiction was all I did. I mean 24 hours a day. I was writing for Non-fiction and making calls for Non-fiction or being in the band and now I'm happily married and I have a great job. I mean I don't even set my alarm clock. When I go into work I'm happy to be there. I play basket ball a couple of times a week. I have a real diverse life. At age 36 I couldn't be just Dan from Hades and that's all I have to live for, that would be sad at this point in my life. One reason we get along so well is we don't have the constant three or four nights a week rehearsals. We rehearsed twelve times to do the record. We did the record in three or four days. Then we didn't rehearse for six months and we just started rehearsing a month ago. We did a brand new video and we flew in the bass player up from Plaino Texas, Scott Lapage. And we rehearsed. We actually rehearsed a couple of times with our old bass player Jimmy Shulman, we're gonna bring him up on stage for a song or two when we do our reunion show next month.

MR: Did you get married recently?

Dan: I got married September 13, 1997 in Rome Italy.

MR: Oh. I got Married on October 3, 1998.

Dan: Congratulations.

MR: Thanks. To you too. (I'm starting to slur now.-Jeff) So what exactly are your touring plans?

Dan: Well because I'm not in the position to go on tour for six months and lose my job. I was making $175 a week for guitar playing for Non-fiction. (Whaaa...That sucks!-Jeff) ***Now I spend $400 a week for food.*** (What the hell is he eating? Imported snodgrass?-Jeff) ***Now it's a different kind of life so I can't lose my job and go on tour for six months. We don't want to lie to anybody. But what we are gonna do is, we have a couple of weeks off from the magazine in the summer and we're gonna figure out if we're gonna tour America or Europe and we have a lot of other things at our disposal. We're trying to do some weekend warrior dates. We're talking about playing at Birch Hill and then going to Philadelphia in April. We'll try to do a few things but we can't be constantly touring at this point in my life.***

MR: Just make sure you keep in touch with me so I can know when you come around here.

Dan: OK. We're hoping you'll hear about it because we're gonna try to get a lot of visibility in the metal base. Do a bunch of ads and we're gonna

be on the Howard Stern Show in a couple of weeks for a little bit. Metal Blade is putting out a home video with Mercyful Fate, Cannibal Corpse and Hades. So thanks to Metal Blade I think everything we do will be magnified. It'll be a lot easier to find out what's going on with Hades.

MR: Well they help me! (Laugh) I heard something about Howard Stern had your manager or something on there a couple of weeks ago?

Dan: No. My editor from Steppin' Out Magazine. What happened was that I was playing a riff that I wrote back in 1988 that Metallica used. It's called "Enter Sandman." I'm not saying they stole it but they had access to the tape and "Enter Sandman" was basically the same notes. And my Editor was blown away by it and wanted to play it for Howard. He asked me if I could. I said, "I guess it's OK". So then I called Metal Blade and they said, "No, don't do that". So he went behind my back, called Howard and he played it on the air and said you know Hades wrote this riff way before Metallica. Howard said "ah it sounds similar but let's hear the rest of their songs," but he only had a copy of my 4-track tape that I put down in 1988. In fact we just Fed Exed Howard a video and the new CD so hopefully he'll play at least a little bit in the next few weeks.

MR: Are you going there to plug the new album and stuff? (Really slurring bad.)

Dan: Yeah, pretty much.

MR: I didn't know he did stuff like that?

Dan: Oh he doesn't but my editor for Steppin' Out Magazine is pretty tight with Howard.

MR: You lucked out there.

Dan: Totally. Yeah. We have a lot of connections and that's why we're gonna try and get this record a lot of visibility.

MR: I was mentioning to a couple of friends that I was interviewing you guys. I was all excited about it and they go "oh, he was on Howard a couple of weeks ago." I said "What!? Wait a minute fill me in on this I didn't hear anything about it." (He then gives me his fax number to keep in touch.) OK I have a couple of stupid questions. That's kind of the way my magazine runs. What was your favorite episode of "What's Happening?"

Dan: Boy I don't remember any of that one. Was that the one with JJ? (Dy-No-Mite!-Jeff)

MR: No, that's "Good Times."

Dan: "What's Happening" was Rerun?

MR: Yeah.

Dan: I don't remember. All I remember was masturbating to "Charlie's Angels" when I was in like 7th or 8th grade. That's the only old, old, old show that I remember.

MR: Which one was your favorite?

Dan: Farrah, come on.

MR: Every once in a while you get a weird person.(Yeah, like the one whose favorite was that fat dude that looked like Mr. Cunningham.)

Dan: Cheryl Ladd was a close second.

MR: Yeah. She was a replacement. You go for the blondes huh?

Dan: No, in fact I don't like blondes. My wife is a dark haired Italian girl. That's what I really like.

MR: I got an Italian Myself.

Dan: Oh yeah, That's good.

MR: I'm a jew with an Italian.

Dan: A jew with an Italian?

MR: Yeah, we a got a good thing going though.

Dan: That's Good.

MR: (Laughs) OK. What's with all the purple covers on Metal Blade Records?

Dan: You know you're the second person to ask that.

MR: Seriously?

Dan: Yeah

MR: Who else asked?

Dan: Martin Popoff from Toronto, Canada. Who put out the book...(At this point I've become an disruptive idiot interupting him after everything he says. I don't think he notices though.)

MR: Brave Words and Bloody Knuckles.

Dan: Actually it's a book called The Collector's Guide to Heavy Metal. Awesome book. (The writer makes some weird choices if you ask me-Angus)(I agree.-Jeff)

MR: I have it. It's a big black book. It came with a Century Media Disk.

Dan: Right. I hope you noticed the Non-fiction review in there.

MR: Of course.(Actually I hadn't but I looked after hanging up the phone. I still haven't got through that book yet. It's got like 3 trillion reviews in it and that guy's not fun like me-Jeff)

Dan: He's the first to ask me that.

MR: Damn! He beat me. When was this interview?

Dan: Two days ago. But I didn't know Allan just picked purple. We didn't pay attention it was just a pure coincidence.

MR: Well about a month and a half ago I got like seven promos from Metal Blade and I think five of them were purple.

Dan: That's funny we didn't notice that.

MR: Ok I thought it was a conspiracy or something.

Dan: Martin wondered if maybe Metal Blade got a discount on purple ink.

MR: What was your greatest tour story?

Dan: I'll tell you one thing I'll never forget. Sitting in Holland me and Criss Oliva (Savatage) shared equiptment on his last European tour in 1993. We shared a tour and a tour bus. It was me and Allan and the guys from Savatage. The only interview I was ever sitting behind Criss at was with some kid from Holland. He said to Criss don't you feel weird using the name Savatage. Because your brother isn't in the band. Criss said, "no I don't, Savatage is me and my guitar sound. Without me there is no Savatage." For some reason that stuck in my head and as you probably know a few months later he died. (A car accident) ***And the band went on without him. I just find it so curious, you know how bands continue putting out albums saying he would have wanted us to continue.***

MR: I guess not.

Dan: Here's Criss Oliva saying without me and my guitar there is no Savatage. I don't know what to make of that it's just something that stuck in my mind that I'll never forget.

MR: That's a cool story.

Dan: It was just kind of prophetic. I didn't know the guy was going to die obviously. I hadn't even sat in on any of his other interviews, not that he didn't do a whole bunch. That was the only one I heard him do. I was sitting behind him eating a sandwich. It just haunts me that I can hear his voice, I can hear the question, i can hear the inflection in his voice saying without me there is no Savatage.

MR: Don't tell that story to anybody else.

Dan: Really?

MR: Let me have the Exclusive on that.(I'm laughing.)

Dan: When's your magazine coming out?

MR: Actually you're the first interview for the next issue.

Dan: OK

MR: You're the first for #5. I'm putting out #four in two weeks.

Dan: OK. Another thing I remember really well.(laughs) ***We were on tour in Dallas with Non-fiction. This is kind of a dirty story.***

MR: Ok. Thats good we like that.

Dan: Our Drummer, Mike Christy, was not doing too well on the tour. He walks back into the dressing room and right behind him is this girl and she looks like a mess. He says, "oh man I just jerked off all over this dumb slut in the parking lot". Not knowing that the girl was right behind him. That's something too that struck me as so comical because she was right behind him and he was totally oblivious.

MR: I actually had almost the same exact thing happen to me. I go to this gym and there's a girl that works out at the gym that was in Playboy about four years ago. Me and this guy were talking about it and he goes I've got that issue in my car do you want to see it? So I said of course I do. We go out to the car and look at it then go back into the gym. He goes now that you've seen that can I see a nude picture of your wife? I said "I'd show it to you but my big dick is blocking her out of the picture." (Dan laughs.) Right as I'm saying "big dick" I turn around and there's the girl from the Playboy right behind me. So it was perfect timing.

Dan: Oh shit.

MR: I think she was very excited about it.

Dan: I'm sure.

MR: I like to hope. Do you have any last words?

Dan: Why am I being put to death or something? What do you mean by that?

MR: Yeah I have a firing squad all fired up.

Dan: I hate Lawyers, I hate Johnny Cochran, I hate OJ, I hate a lot of people I could go on...I hate Ron Cubie (Who the fuck is that? Did I spell it right?-Jeff) ***with a passion***

MR: You can go on as long as you like. I'm just out of questions. It's pretty lame, I know. (We laugh.) You can tell me about whatever you like. We'll make this interview as long as you like.

Dan: Did you see in Metal Maniacs there's a picture of me with the Pope?

MR: I don't think I saw that. Is this the newest Metal Maniacs?

Dan: It came out about three months ago. My wife and I got married in Rome, Italy and we met the Pope.

MR: Oh no, I did see that picture. What was on the cover of that issue?

Dan: I think Sepultura.

MR: That's the issue I got reviewed in. (Kick ass review of course!-Jeff) When you dig up that issue take a look.

Dan: Yeah I might still have it. Did I mail you anything after I saw you in that issue?

MR: No. It's the issue with the new singer for Sepultura.

Dan: Yeah. A lot of people ask me how I got to meet the Pope. My answer to that is a lot of Americans have real corny weddings. When I was in 2nd grade. I knew I would never ever have a traditional wedding. I didn't think I would get married because I knew you have to dance at a wedding and I just don't dance. (I do and I suck!-Jeff) ***My wife and I had our wedding in a five hundred year old church in Rome. Because we really dislike American weddings. The corny wedding band and the whole thing with the cake in the face. I'm really opposed to tradition that's corny. Traditions are nice but they shouldn't be kept if they're stupid. So my wife flew over her best friends. One of my best friends flew over and her folks flew over and we got married in Rome. Three days later we got a ticket to sit next to the Pope at a mass in St. Peter's and after the mass we got to shake hands and say hello.***

MR: Was the Pope cool?

Dan: Yes. Well it was such a bizarre thing the guy from Hades meeting the Pope. There were so many things going on in my mind at the time. My wife said he smelled like really nice cologne. I even said I wish I had shaken his hand. She said yes you did but I didn't have any recollection of it. We got four pictures with him and I did shake his hand. I just don't recall it. (Must be Catholic shock or maybe the Pope gave him like a Spock grip or something.-Jeff)

MR: You would have liked my wedding we had a lot of Metal playing.

Dan: Really?

MR: I had to, in fact our wedding song...do you like Stryper?

Dan: No.(With out missing a beat. He didn't have to think this one out.-Jeff)

MR: You don't like them at all? (Am I alone on this? Help me out here)

Dan: I have a Stryper story after this.

MR: Well, I did an interview with Michael Sweet like a month before the wedding and we made our wedding song "All of Me" off of *To Hell with the Devil*. I asked him if he wanted to come down and sing it at the wedding, because he's only in Massachusetts. You know it's not that far and he had to pick cranberries or something. I think it was kind of a lame excuse. I think he could have come down.

Dan: Sure. (He's thinking now "Why should Michael Sweet come to this bozos wedding?" -Jeff)

MR: He did send me a wedding card but thats beside the point.

Dan: That's nice.

MR: We played it at the wedding and it's pretty strange on the wedding tape we put it on and said this is by Stryper and everybody was like, "GASP!" Like we commited a sin or something.

Dan: What's the problem? They're probably the most Christian band you can think of.

MR: I think it was because it was a Metal band.

Dan: You could have played Hades.

MR: But we cut the cake to "Living After Midnight". There was a lot of Metal at the wedding and we have people complaining on the tape. We moshed to "Master of Puppets".

Dan: Excellent.

MR: Now tell me your Stryper story.

Dan: I remember when I first met Allan and he would get all excited about the people I introduced him to. Like Dave Mustaine and he was wearing a Hades shirt. He said he loved Hades but I don't know if he really did or if he was so drunk that he thought he loved us. We went to see Slayer and Overkill at the Ritz and we met the drummer from Stryper and Allan was a little into Stryper at the time. Ten minutes later we saw Tom Araya and he says did you see that guy from Stryper. Allan was like "Yeah!"(Very excited!) ***Tom Araya says "what a fucking faggot right?" and Allan was like "Yeah!"***(Very excited again!) ***He changes his tune, he's all enamored with the dude from Stryper and then when Tom Araya was calling him a faggot Allan was agreeing with him. Maybe it wasn't all that great of a story but anyway..***

MR: Yeah, you built me up for that. It was sort of disappointing. I thought there would be more than that.

Dan: Sorry about that.

MR: I wanted to ask his brother if maybe he was a homosexual but I thought that would be a bad idea.(Not that there's anything wrong with that.-Jeff)

Dan: So, I'll mail you some Steppin' Outs. When is this coming out realistically?

MR: I would say three months.(Give or take a few months. Ha ha.) We're on a pretty good schedule here. *Metal Rules!* is one of the more reliable zines. Don't take me out of context here even though I'm editing my own interview. (What the fuck am I babbling about?) We're pretty consistent. We put out 4 issues in one year.

Dan: Well Jeff, Thanks for your time.

MR: Actually, I have one more request for you. Do you have your guitar handy?

Dan: It's in the other room with my wife and she's sick in bed. Why?

MR: I just wanna cut a little ID like Howard does for my machine.

Dan: I can't plug it in. What do you want me to do?

MR: You've reached **Metal Rules! Magazine** and play some guitar.

Dan: But you won't hear it, I have no juice.

MR: Naah...it'll work (I think I'm bugging him at this point.but he's a good sport!) He then goes to get his guitar from the room where his sick wife is sleeping.I am a bastard! He returns. Is this the stupidest thing you've ever done?

Dan :No. This is Dan from Hades and here's a riff that I wish I wrote. This is Godflesh. (He plays!)

MR: Play one of yours.

Dan: If you want that play "Savior Self".

MR: C'mon.

Dan: I'll do another one.

MR: Play some crazy solo, where you're playing behind your head or something.

Dan: Playing behind my head? (Now he's getting sick.-Jeff) ***I don't do any solos on the new Hades record. What's a good solo to do? You tell me.***

MR: Play something off Resisting.

Dan: Hey, this is Dan Lorenzo from the band Hades, I played this riff in like 1986 when the Mets won the World Series and it went something like this. (Plays again. He was right. You can barely hear it.) ***Leave Jeff a message.***

MR: That was good.

Dan: Alright man?

Mr: That was good!

Remember to read Dan's part in a NY accent!

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METAL FEST REPORT

by Brian "Angus" Pursglove

This two day festival was a mix of Hardcore and various types of Heavy Metal (Death Metal, Grindcore, and Power Metal.) The March Metal Meltdown took place in Asbury Park, NJ at the Convention Hall. There were three stages, a bunch of labels, magazines, and merchants, and no heat. At the Convention Hall Stage it wasn't too bad but the Paramount stage was kind of chilly if you sat down for a band or two. The Relapse Stage on the other hand was cold as hell thanks to the gusts of wind that came in whenever a band was setting up or tearing down. The chill in the air coupled with the chronic sound problems could have really ruined this show but it was saved by a lot of good bands.

The Relapse Stage featured mostly unknown and unsigned bands so it was hard to know what kind of music to expect. Guys with short hair and baggy clothes became key indicators of Hardcore bands. I would definitely have to say the most unique band that I saw at this stage was BUTCHERY a Death Metal band from NY fronted by a female singer. She was interesting to look at because she was painted gold and had those funky contact lenses in her eyes. Her voice was different especially in between songs - is it really necessary to be evil sounding all the time? MORGION on the other hand was a mellow sort of Doom Rock sounding band. I really enjoyed their set even though there were only two songs in it. They had a sort of TYPE O NEGATIVE combined with BLACK SABBATH sound showing you don't have to play fast to be heavy. VADER really got the crowd going with an aggressive set. I wanted to see these guys because I had heard so many good things about them but haven't gotten around to getting anything by them. I now plan to go out and buy their newest release. Now we get to the band that I skipped seeing BIOHAZARD for, NAPALM DEATH. They played a diverse set featuring both new and old material. Barney in particular was energetic stomping around the stage belting out the songs and stirring the crowd into a moshing frenzy.

The Paramount Stage was the place for New Wave of British Heavy Metal bands like BLITZKRIEG and RAVEN. But before I get to them let's talk about some of the younger people on that stage. DEATH KIDS were interesting to say the least, Dad plays bass and his two young sons make up the rest of the band. The vocals were half-decent and the drumming was great but the bass has a place and it didn't always stay in that place. Here's a hint, a bassline break is only a good thing if it fits the song you are playing at the time. The guitar playing was competent but how many times can you play the same solo? Maybe if he took a couple more lessons and learned how to change things up a bit while soloing. Maybe in a couple of years they could do something but for now they need time to grow and mature as musicians. DIVINE EMPIRE was a band that I was really looking forward to seeing because I had picked up their CD *Redemption* and really liked it. They are also kind of responsible for me seeing one of the biggest disappointments of the show for me at least. The singer was wearing a PUYA shirt and that helped me make up my mind about seeing them that afternoon, but I will get to that later. Anyway they were great and put on an enjoyable show even at 12:00 in the afternoon. GARDEN OF SHADOWS was probably one of my favorites from the whole show mixing guitar synths with heavy distortion really worked for these guys and girl. Only one suggestion is that there are more sounds in that synth. Maybe try using more than just the organ sounds. Here we go to the eighties. ANVIL is a band that I recommend you see if you ever get the chance but you have to watch This is SPINAL TAP first. I don't know what it was about them but they kept me thinking of Tap. Anyway they had some very catchy songs and really put on a good stage show. Most of the NWOBHM bands weren't quite for me except for BLITZKRIEG I couldn't get into the music from that part of the show.

The Convention Hall stage had the real big names on it. This is where SEPULTURA, BIOHAZARD and Jasmine St. Claire could be seen. I missed BIOHAZARD but from what I saw of SEPULTURA I really miss Max. I have no idea what Andreas was trying to do but at one point all he did was let his guitar feedback. Maybe they should get a rhythm guitar player because they had a thin sound overall. PUYA on the other hand had way too much going on and a whole lot of people on the stage with them playing percussion instruments. It was just too different to handle. Speaking of different CANDIRIA is a band that I have heard a lot about but hadn't heard before seeing them live. Now I heard something about mixing Death Metal and Jazz, this really got my attention because that could potentially be a good pairing but I just didn't see it. They sounded Hardcore to me. Speaking of Hardcore EARTH CRISIS did something that really hurt me personally. They covered "War Pigs", no big deal there, but the singer crossed a line or something and tried to sing it in a style that didn't fit the music or the song. He quickly realised his mistake but it was too late. ICED EARTH was just great they had diverse music solid stage presence and a lot of catchy songs. They really woke me up Friday night and got me in the mood for more Metal. HYPOCRISY was great even though their second guitar player was sick with food poisoning. Even as a three piece they had a solid sound and the songs didn't seem to be missing parts. AMORPHIS recently altered their musical direction going from Death Metal to a Heavy Metal Jam band thing. Very cool, because they still did some of the older heavier material. All right, now it is time to discuss my personal favorite of the whole Metal Fest, DIMMU BORGIR. These guys really play it up with the whole stage show and the atmosphere. I think they had the worst of the sound problems because the sound guy didn't turn the effects off of the singer's voice after some of the songs so it was impossible to understand him at all. But other than the sound problems they were amazing. Maybe it was because Jeff scared them earlier in the day by asking them if they were ready to rock.

OVERKILL INTERVIEW

I LOVE OVERKILL! When I had a chance to interview these Metal legends I jumped at the chance! It's always fun to interview bands you love! This one was especially cool because I think for once my interviewee actually enjoyed my strange interviewing style. In fact, I think he loved it! I'll let you be the judge so read on, you silly bastards! He was 15 minutes late for the interview and I was getting anxious! The phone rings and I hit speaker...

(NOTE: PR and bands have been warned and warned again. I asked for pictures, I didn't get them. Instead you'll get zoo animals and recipes when ever this happens.)

Bobby Blitz: Hey Jeff, Bobby Blitz from Overkill.

Metal Rules: Where the hell have you been? (I'm yelling!)

BB: Hey man, sorry I'm late.

MR: (I laugh) I've been worried sick about you.

BB: Worried sick about me?

MR: (Laughs) Yeah man fifteen minutes late I was getting scared.

BB: You thought I died again?

MR: Oh Jesus Christ did you die once before?

BB: (Laughs) I was dead on the internet for a while last year for a while.

MR: You were dead on the internet?

BB: Yeah it was kind of cool. It was for like ten days.

MR: That's pretty messed up.

BB: Yeah I was sitting here looking at it going gee I've passed away (Laughs).

MR: (Laughs) Was it a helicopter crash or what?

BB: Actually I did get sick but somebody offed me before the doctor fixed me.

MR: Oh okay, that's good.

BB: That was pretty fucking sick they didn't even wait until I was really dead (Laughs).

MR: The internet is good for that sort of thing. OK my first question is probably the most embarrassing but the most important question that I have for you.

BB: Sure.

MR: What possessed you to show your thong to the President?

BB: (laughs) What!?

MR: What possessed you to show your thong to the President?

BB: To show my thong?

MR: Your thong to the president.

BB: What possessed me? I don't know what your talking about.

MR: Your thong to President Clinton.

BB: What possessed me to show my thong ?

MR: This is not Monica Lewinsky?

BB: I'm not Monica Lewinsky! (laughs)

MR: This isn't Monica Lewinsky?

BB: (Laughs) You're a sick man.

MR: Alright. About your new album. (Bobby is still laughing hysterically.) You should have caught on to that one.

BB: It was called "Was She lying, No She Was On Her Knees".

MR: Yes. Your new album has come out so quick it's made my head spin what's with that?

BB: Well you know its pretty obvious that we have very few means of visibility one of them is releases, one of them is metal radio, one of them is Metal Rules!

MR: Very Good.

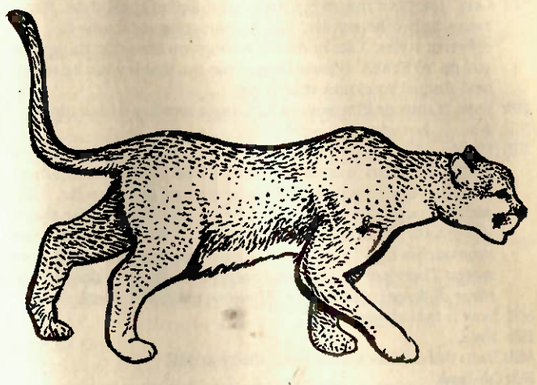
BB: The point is fresh material for us is fresh. We've gotten into this cycle of touring, writing, recording, releasing, touring, writing, recording, releasing and it has been that way for us for ten records and not for two records. I think you know you can count on a new OVERKILL record every sixteen months. Which is probably the distance between "From The Underground" and "Necroshine". So its just the way we do things and it kind of works for us so why fix it.

MR: Oh, OK. Do you have like an archive of songs or something?

BB: Huh!?

MR: Do you have an archive of songs?

BB: Yeah. D.D. never stops writing. He's always writing, we were finishing "From The Underground" and he came up to me and said I've got this riff for the next record. And I'm like geez give me a little time. Give me a little breathing room. But the idea is that he constantly collects material. And when we finish touring he sits down for about a month piecing it together and comes up with a record. Then demos it with the guys. The guys start having input I start finishing the songs off. Then boom the next thing you know we're in the studio again.



MR: Cool! Do you guys consider yourselves heavier now or would you consider yourselves heavier in the past?

BB: I think we perceive heavy as different. I think we conceived heavy in the past as being very fast. I think we perceive heavy today as a contrast between midtempo and fast, between slow and midtempo and fast. I think it is obvious that the evolution of this band has incorporated new elements into the band. Those new elements are to perceive heavy as different. But I can't say we're heavier now or heavier then. I think we've always had a certain contemporary value for whatever we do release that lends itself to being heavy.

MR: OK. I have to say your voice sounds different than it does on your website. I listened to a couple of your interview clips on your website. And your voice sounds different it sounds as if you're falling asleep on there or something.

BB: (Laughs) ***I was dead.***

MR: You were dead! Exactly.(Bobby is still laughing) What about concert
wise do you think you can deliver as heavy as you use to?

BB: Yeah. I don't think thats ever been a problem. I've always considered OVERKILL a band that makes records so that they can stand on stages. We've done over 2,000 shows now. It's pretty obvious since a good number of people still come to these shows is the confirmation that we can deliver. I consider us one of the sweatiest bands in the existence of time. I think Henry Rollins beats us when he gets up and plays. I do think OVERKILL is in like the top five. Because it's all about a hundred percent it's not about a hundred and one percent that doesn't exist. Its about reality and that reality is a hundred percent. Quite obviously in our estimation have always

delivered that.

MR: Are you the smelliest band too? Or just the sweatiest?

BB: I think just the sweatiest. If you sweat to a certain level it becomes almost like an internal shower.

MR: Wow!

BB: You start just pushing out pure water after a while.

MR: Is that like a golden shower?

BB: (Laughs) Hey, you do what you like.

MR: (Laughs) It's fun sometimes with the right company. (Mr. Blitz is still laughing) I noticed that you have more of a Rock and Roll influence on this record more so than you have before.

BB: Really?

MR: Yeah. You don't hear it?

BB: No. You're the first one to bring that up to me. I heard that about the last record more so. I do hear some thick grooves in it, "Stone Cold Jesus" for instance.

MR: That sounds like Ted Nugent in the begining of that. The opening.

BB: You know what it is? It is actually "(Anesthesia) - Pulling Teeth" it's like two or three bars of that from Cliff Burton's bass solo on a Metallica record. (OK somebody is slipping here he doesn't know the name of "Kill 'em All"-Angus) We did it actually cause it sounded that way to us. But that is note for note "Anesthesia" at the begining of "Stone Cold."

MR: Cool! I noticed that every track is a different vocal style. Not necessarily different but, you use the same vocal tone in different styles. Like in that first song you have that thing where you go "AYEYAYA" (Please forgive me but that is what he really said-Angus) You know that thing.

BB: Yeah, it sounds like you are burning a monkey with a cigar.

MR: Yeah, is that what you were doing.

BB: (Laughs) ***No, I was burning myself actually.*** (Laughs) ***I think for doing this for as long as we have to remain the same is wrong. I think the band evolves and I have evolved as a vocalist. I don't abandon where I've been before, I think I kind of bring that along with me. But I think its important to incorporate newer approaches into it. Because this interests me in writing these songs. There's a lot of layered vocals on this where there's two or three different vocal styles. There's a really low death voice.***

MR: Now is that all you?

BB: Yeah.

MR: Even the old black man voice that you did?

BB: Oh Yeah.

MR: That was cool. Even the female?

BB: No, the female... Ahhh! (Laughs)

MR: You sounded really sexy.

BB: That's my sister. Very Angelic.

MR: Yeah, it was very beautiful, touching.

BB: Yeah, well the point is that I think that you need to create contrast to make a different moods on the record. Though the record lends itself to one vibe there are many vibes that make that one vibe.

MR: I've been waiting.. when is OVERKILL IV coming out?

BB: It did actually. It was "Evil Never Dies" on Years of Decay.

MR: I'm sorry, how about OVERKILL V? (Stupid me...Somebody else gave me that question and I didn't really think about it.-Jeff)

BB: You didn't pay attention close enough. It started with that little bit of the riff in there and the vocals are a continuation of the story line. We just never titled it "OVERKILL IV." We stopped writing from that point on because Gustafson left the band. And we felt it was time to close the door on one aspect of the band and that was the fact that we had done this trilogy plus one, you might say. For the OVERKILL songs cause we were moving on with different people.

MR: How many members have there been now at this point?

BB: I have to give a quick count. Let me see there is five now six, seven, eight, nine, ten. Ten members of OVERKILL.

MR: Have you ever thought of putting together a reunion tour with all ten guys on stage?

BB: (Laughs) ***I think that would be a little crowded.***

MR: It might be fun though.

BB: (Laughs) ***Now that would be smelly.***

MR: And sweaty.

BB: (Still laughing) ***It's never crossed my mind.***

MR: You should think about it.

BB: OK. (Laughs)

MR: I'll promote it for you. (Bobby laughs) It will be good for you.

BB: Metal Rules! Reunion not enough room on this fucking stage. (Laughs)

MR: (Laughs) Did you ever listen to a band and say, "Oh my God th sounds like us."

BB: No.

MR: Really?

BB: No, never heard that. I'm not saying just because of our originality. I've just never heard a band and thought, "Oh m God that sounds like us". Whether it be guitar tones or vocals tones or both together. You know some similarities, but not where I go, "Oh my God that sounds like us".

MR: Yeah. This is my little kissing ass section. (Thanks for the warning.-Angus) I was a little nervous about this interview. I've been like a huge fan of you guys since the very begining.

BB: Sure.

MR: And I always thought you had one of the most original voices Metal. Like I don't think anyone else sounds like you.

BB: Yeah, I think its identifiable. I'm not gonna say its original bu I'll say it's identifiable.

MR: Have you ever heard of a band called Erotikill?

BB: You know I've heard the name. From Baltimore?

MR: I don't know. I was looking through an old Metal magazine th other night and I see this and I looked quickly and thought it w you. They were dressed like you guys and then I looked at it a it said Erotikill and I said what the fuck is this? (Laughs)

BB: (Laughs) ***They were dressed like us, in clothes?***

MR: Yeah they had clothes on and they were wearing Smurf patche and I didn't know exactly what that was. You remember when you guys went through that whole Smurf era?

BB: (Laughs)

MR: That was great I loved that.

BB: (Laughs) ***Over Smurf,*** (Laughs) ***I hate Smurf,*** (Laughs) ***Necro Smurf.***

MR: I'm looking at it. It was a two page add in Rip Magazine and I like who are these guys, I've never heard of them before?

BB: Yeah. Its ringing a bell but I'm not sure I know them or anythi Baltimore for some reason is coming to mind.

MR: I think you should sue them or something and get like fifty cen

BB: You think so?

MR: Yeah, probably.

BB: Put my son through college right?

MR: You never know. Do you have a son?

BB: Yeah.

MR: How old is he?

BB: Fifteen.

MR: Fifteen?

BB: Oh yeah.

MR: Holy Crapnoids! (Yes he really said this one too.-Angus) Do y only have one child or two?

BB: Just one. One boy.

MR: I got a girl myself.

BB: Really how old?

MR: Eight.

BB: Alright! Way to go!

MR: She's too young for your son so don't get any ideas..

BB: But she's not too young for OVERKILL.

MR: Yeah, Exactly. He's really fifteen? So is your son into you guys?

BB: If he wants to eat he is.

MR: Yeah! He just pretends?

BB: I think he's really into it because he gets to see it develop. I think if his father managed a restaurant or went to a suit and tie job or was an accountant I don't think he would be. But I think that he is really into because he gets to see it develop. I let him work shows since he's been twelve. Anywhere in New York and New Jersey, Philly. I'll bring him, he's backstage working as a roadie doing sound checks you know the whole bit. So he has a special attachment to it.

MR: You are based in New York right?

CRUNCHY GREEN BEANS

- 1 10 ounce box BIRDS EYE Green Beans with Almonds
- 1 tablespoon vegetable or olive oil
- 2 teaspoons red wine or cider vinegar
- 1 teaspoon instant minced onions or 1 tablespoon fresh diced onion
- 1/3 cup herbed croutons, coarsely crushed

❑ Combine green beans, oil, vinegar and onions, mix well; reserve almonds in packet.
❑ Place mixture in a 1 quart baking dish prepared with non-stick cooking spray.
❑ Combine croutons and almonds from packet. Spread over green bean mixture.
❑ Bake in a 375° oven for 15-20 minutes or until beans are heated through and almonds are golden brown.

Makes 3-4 servings
Prep time:5 Minutes • Cooking time:15-20 minutes

BB: I live in New Jersey now.

MR: Oh you do now? Where do you live at?

BB: I live in northwest Jersey. In Sussex County, Vernon Valley.

MR: Oh OK. I don't really know where that is I'm just pretending.(I laugh)

BB: Did you ever see the Mountain Creek ads or Action Park? That's where I live.

MR: Yeah. I guess you're real excited you're playing Dynamo?

BB: Yeah! Its gonna be good. We're the last Metal band who walked the Earth in Chuck Taylor high tops to be invited. You know from the 80's. When people ask why we've never played it before we say they saved the best for last. (Laughs)

MR: What, you were never asked?

BB: No, we were never asked. I think Andre the original promoter had a problem with the band. I don't know if it was personal or that he just hated the music. But he was very vocal that he didn't want us on his festival.

MR: Wow, that isn't very nice.

BB: At least he was honest.

MR: Maybe you should bitch slap him.

BB: No! He's no doing it anymore there's another guy doing it. Who happens to love the band very dearly, so its a different perspective now. You know the point is I'd rather hear I hate the band than, "Oh we'll try to fit you in". Because you're not gonna be fit in then. But when I heard that, "Oh I hate the band" I go "OK I can pursue something else". It's not a real big deal to me.

MR: Alright now I'd like you to tell our wide metal minions about the real you.

BB: What do you need to know?

MR: I want your entire history of life.

BB: My history of life. I'll give you a few philosophies and a few likes and dislikes. Hows that?

MR: OK.

BB: I think that what makes me is OVERKILL. I think it has given me great opportunities through life. Opportunities that I wouldn't have doing other things. I think it has made me a more tolerant person over the years. I don't think I'm the same person I was in 1985. I think there has been some changes. And the changes are always for the better. My idea about life is to always build a better man and you build him through the mistakes and not repeating them. And you build him by taking steps that are not necessarily the easy steps to take. I think I have been very succesful with this on a personal level. I still have a long way to go but I think that's just the way it is with living. Living is always gonna be a journey or life itself. To make it a step by step process.

MR: What other things besides OVERKILL do you like to do? In your spare time and stuff.

BB: Well, I'm an avid Harley Head. I love being out on the two wheels. Love riding, there is nothing more exciting to me on a personal level than riding with twenty or forty bikes with drag pipes on them. It sounds like a war happening. It's just absolutely exhilirating, I love two or three hundred mile rides. I like throwing a tent on the back or on the handlebars and my wife likes to ride with me. I'd have to say that is my biggest interest outside. I'm a sports nut I love watching basketball, love watching baseball, love watching football. All New York teams, Giants, Mets, Knicks. I'm real involved in what my son does musically and in his schooling. You know that kind of thing.

MR: Is he in a band or anything?

BB: He plays bass. He's not in a band right now but he plays bass. He has a lot of my old equiptment. My old Fender, some practice amps, and some drum machines and he uses my four track now and then. So yeah he's got an interst in it. He wants to be just like daddy.

MR: That's cool.

BB: Yeah, absolutely. I think this band has allowed me to be more open minded about things more liberal about things than conservative. I think my son kind of reaps the benefits of that.

MR: OK. Would you like to support the hair care products that you use, cause your hair always looks so clean and fluffy?

BB: (Laughs) ***Support the what!?***

MR: (I laugh)The hair care products that you use,(Bobby starts exploding into laughter again) you have the best hair in Extreme Metal.

BB: I use the hair care products that my wife buys. (Laughs) ***Whatever she uses and occasionally just a bar of Ivory.***

MR: Yeah it looks like you use Pert Plus, it's pretty fluffy.

BB: I use Lava.

MR: You use Lava in your hair?

BB: I use Lava soap, you know the stuff you get motor oil off your hands with?

MR: Yeah.

BB: Yeah, that's what we use.

MR: That's great. Now this has to do with your death rumor.

BB: How much time do you take thinking of this stuff? (Laughs)

MR: This takes me hours. You know what's funny? I'm a huge fan of you guys, since the 80's. I'm one of the older guys to interview you, I'm 32 years old. I'm not one of the young kin.

BB: Sure.

MR: And I set this interview up a week ago and I've been wracking my brain. It's like I'm gonna remember everything after I get off the phone with you.

BB: Right. (laughs)

MR: Then I'll have to track you down in some way to ask you these questions. I wanted to do this interview in person. I've never done an interview in person and I wanted to start with you but it didn't work out that way because you're not playing at the Troc.

BB: Really.

MR: Like I'd hoped you would.

BB: You're down in 609 so you're across from Philly?

MR: Yeah I'm in South Jersey. You can come over my house and we can have some pizza and I can ask you the questions I forgot.

BB: Nice Hair man. (laughs)

MR: Yeah! It's cause my wife is a hair dresser and I guess it just comes out of me.

BB: Nice hair. Can I touch it? (laughs)

MR: I'm not gonna touch it if you wash it with Lava. It's gonna fall out of your head.

BB: (Laughs)

MR: I got a rumor that you were dead. So are you dead?

BB: You know I was for a couple of weeks. My publicist said you have to make a statement so I said hold I have to check the sound scan. (Laugh)

MR: You and Nikki Sixx.

BB: Yeah. I said the sales are up don't you say anything. (Laughs)

MR: (Laughs) No actually there is a rumor that the band is quitting after this tour.

BB: That's unfounded. I know that went out yesterday. I found that rumor in my E-mail also. So it's unfounded information. Sebastian Marino left the band recently because, the rumor was actually kind of accurate because of financial problems. Actually the rumor said the financial direction of the band. I don't know what the hell that means. Basically it means we can't pay him two grand a week to get out of the hole he's in financially. The point is he needed to do something else to get his life in order. And we wish him all the best. The guy was a fantastic asset to the band and who knows what the future may hold, he may be back in this band after one or two tours. But the point is we move on and I think the we always have as far the rumor about Tim Mallory and Joe Comeau and that DD and myself are changing the direction of the band. I mean the fucking record is a week old. (Laugh) ***We must have a pretty fuckin' rotten plan. So Joe is staying Tim is staying the direction remains as constant and commited as ever.***

MR: Very Cool. This is pretty sad but I'm almost out of questions here. But like I said I wracked my brain so I'd like you to talk for about thirty minutes now about anything you like.

BB: For thirty Minutes!? (Laughs)

MR: I hope you have a lot to talk about we want to fill the space. We want to give you a lot of coverage but I'm out of questions.

BB: I'm gonna give a lesson on how to tune a big twin. (Laughs)

MR: Really. That should be interesting. (Laughs)

BB: I think that honestly what's brought us down these ten years is being able to not take ourselves too seriously. And it gave us to a lot of time to concentrate on the music that we're doing. It's pretty evident in this record as well as past record that we do what we like to do based on the fact that we love what we do. So it is what is and that's what we take it as. As compared to thinking of it in grander terms.

MR: OK. Did you do a lot of interviews today?

BB: You're the third one.

MR: Oh, I'm not the last one?

BB: No, I got one more after this and it's actually during the tip off of the Knicks/Milwaukee game.

MR: What time is that one at?

BB: Eight O' Clock.

MR: OK. So you have four and half more hours to talk.

BB: (Laughs hysterically)

MR: OK.

BB: Now I know why Metal does rule.

MR: We like to have a lot of fun here at this magazine.

BB: I guess you do.

MR: I try to do it a little different at this magazine. Do you find it a little different?

BB: (Laughs)

MR: I'm hoping you are. So do you have any last words for the kids?

BB: How about Necroshine for '99.

MR: What!? Oh OK. Do you have something else? You said that in every interview. I was listening in.

BB: OK. You heard that one. Let's see. How about we'll see you at the Troc?

MR: OK. My Editor just handed me three more questions for you. (Jeremy was in the room with me holding back his giggling through the whole interview. If he would have laughed Bobby would have thought I had a bunch of schoolgirls in my room. He didn't want the interview to end so he quickly put these together. What a lovely chap he is.-Jeff) (I'm not sure if I should be offended by this. -Jeremy)

MR: What Bands do you like?

BB: I have a pretty diverse view of what I like. I like everything from the Who to Harry Connick to Napalm Death to Machine Head. I'm trying to think of what's in my CD player right now. "Diabolicus in Musica" the Slayer record. I think I have a single of Limp Bizkit doing Faith in there I think I also have I also have The Chieftans in there.

MR: Would you like to hear story about you and Slayer?

BB: Yeah sure.

MR: If I get Slayer for this issue, which I haven't even tried yet. Then you will complete a special story from my childhood past.

BB: OK

MR: When I was like seventeen I moved to California. And I sold my car for a hundred bucks, a case of beer and three tapes. The three tapes were Hades *Resisting Success*, OVERKILL *Taking Over*, and Slayer *Rain in Blood.*

BB: Oh beautiful.

MR: I've already interviewed HADES for this issue and you guys so if I interview Slayer it will ge a special history lesson.

BB: Who did you do the interview with Dan?

MR: Yeah.

BB: He's a nut. A good friend of mine.

MR: Yeah, he is, we had a good time chatting.

BB: Yeah absolutely.

MR: We talked about nothing just like we're now.

BB:That's what it's about. (Laughs)

MR: I think the best interviews are when you're just shooting the shit.

BB: Yeah, when I start giving the history of the band it starts getting a little boring for me. Cause I've done over two thousand shows and I've probably have done over four thousand interviews. So when I start giving the history of the band I think I could just send you this information and then we could move on from there.

MR: Yeah exactly. Just check my webpage. See page six.

BB: (Laughs)

MR: One thing that's funny is I showed my wife one of your videos from the webpage. She said that's cool. But I thought to myself it's just so small it's like the size of my thumb. And you can't see anything. So I'm like you're just being supportive of me aren't you honey? (Laughs)

BB: (Laughs) ***You can't get the real feel of it when it's that big.***

MR: Yeah. I'm like they're a lot better in concert than when they are the size of my thumb.

BB: Isn't this larger than something? (laughs)

MR: Yeah, exactly. My editor is pretty good at coming up with these questions. What do you think of Korn being called one of the best Metal bands?

BB: I don't think Korn likes it. (Laughs) ***I think it's pretty obvious that they don't like it. They think they're something beyond Metal. But that's for them to decide, not me.***

MR: I think peas and carrots though really like them though. (Bobby laughs yet again, I'm glad I was able to amuse him so much. Now if only others were like this.-Jeff) OK only because he asked this question and I'm not afraid to ask any questions. If I were a twinkie what would you fill me with?

BB: (Laughs then babbles incoherently then Laughs some more.)

MR: Would you like to think about that for a while? (Laughs)

BB: You know they're coming for you. (Laughs) ***They're right outside the door. They're the people in the white coats.*** (Laughs)

MR: Hey that was his question and I'm gonna blame him completely. (Laughs)

BB: You need Help (Still laughing)

MR: Sitting here I'm being handed notes. This is the big time here. I have one more request.How would you like to tape a message for my answering machine.

Bb: Sure

MR: What I want you to do is..

BB: (Gasps wondering what I'm going to come up with)

MR: (Laugh) Unless you have some other plans.

BB: I'm not going to fill you with anything.

MR: No twinkies or Little Debbie cakes or anything? Just say, "this is Bobby Blitz from Overkill" and do that laugh that you do (On cue Bobby begins laughing) Can you do that? You know, on com mand. (I think any OVERKILL fan would know the laugh I'm talking about. If not, it's the most maniacal laugh you've ever heard.)

BB: You mean the high pitched one?

MR: That "Bwahahahha" one. (My imitation really blew!-Jeff) I can't do it. That's what you're famous for it. So, do the laugh and maybe a scream or something and maybe 5 minutes of song or something.

Bb: (laughs) ***Go ahead...I 'll come up with something.***

MR: Go ahead.

BB: This is Bobby Blitz of OVERKILL, you've reached the offices of Metal Rules!, there is nobody hear to take you call but leave your name and number and we'll get back to youhaaaaaaaaaaaahahhahahhhhahahahh (Killer Laugh that causes me to join in -Jeff)

MR: That was very cool.

BB: I think I'm going to have end it on that one. I'm going to pop a vein in my fuckin' head.

MR: Can't you do a scream?

BB: That's all you can get for this. (laughs)

MR: OK, well it was great talking to you.

BB: Yeah, this was very cool!

Mr: It was a pleasure talking to you. (Did I just repeat myself? -Jeff)

BB: Jeff, it was fun!

Mr: Later man.

BB: Later.

That's it. Did that Rock, or what? -Jeff

Monkey Outta Nowhere!!!

LUNATIC GODS INTERVIEW

LUNATIC GODS are indescribable and insane, just like this interview!! Their music is Extreme and completely original! You must check them out for yourselves! Let's just say that their name is quite fitting! Interview is with one of the Lunatics, A pleasant chap named Hirax!! This was a real tough one to translate but it was worth it! Read on!

Metal Rules: Wasn't Hirax a band on Metal Blade records in the late 80's?

Lunatic Gods: Yeah,you're absolutely right. Hirax was a group from the 80's, and they were on Metal Blade. The main singer was a negro (A Negro?-Jeff) ***and if I remember this correctly his name was Katon W. Depena. Then he has an operation and he became a white man. He was singing the right blues.*** (Yeah, I remember that, it was in all the papers! Whaaaat?.....-Jeff)

MR: How many joints are in a lid?

LG: I'm so sorry, but this is a secret. I swear on death rat covered in cream, that I will never tell anyone about this secret. I can tell you, that guitar player is Hirax, drummer - Psycho, keyboard-King, Richard-bass guitar player and Mortis and Emil are singers. I heard that you can count only to five, so I didn't cheat you, O.K., I'm telling you now. Stop, scream and shout it to the five of us. (That's what I figured he would say.-Jeff)

MR: Would you like my jeans? Would you sell them on E-bay?

LG: Now, about Jeans in our country, There is only a couple of people here, but one of them died, second one moved to the Prague and the third person is me. (Isn't a couple two?-Jeff)Don't be suprised but I did a trade. I exchange my jeans for two cows. I get them from CD dealer for 150 copies of our second CD LUNATIC GODS "SITTING BY THE FIRE" (Man, that guy ripped me. He only gave me a llama and a pelican for 500 copies of Metal Rules #2!-Jeff)

MR: Can I sell your band on e-bay?

LG: Exactly! This is the best way how to improve selling our CD's, shorts, T-shirts and underwear with logo LUNATIC GODS. (No, I want to actually sell your band on e-bay. Lock, stock and Hirax!-Jeff)

MR: Is GWAR the root of all evil?

LG: GWAR are basic color homosexuals. They probably hire some people to fabricate their image, and from this moment in history they are getting money and name. Yes, you're right, they are the Root Of All Evil, because of false hood and speculations. (I guess they're huge fans! What's a basic color homosexual? Is that a Homosexual that dresses in plain colors like Blue and grey and would never ever wear fuschia or puce?-Jeff)

MR: Would you like to have a shiatzchu? Performed by Rappaport or Angus?

LG: I'm stuck on her, she is still on me. I used her by the time I was shooting my last porno film with the fitting name "From Sunrise Til Sunset". (Now this is strange. At first I was really confused but then I realized he was answering question #20 in this space. Now, I'm only partly confused.-Jeff)

MR: If you were driving down a road and a tree jumps in front of you, How Many pancakes can you fit in your mailbox?

LG: Yeeeaaaaah, of course, them tree pancakes come from tree Punk rockers. (Exactly!-Jeff)

MR: Decribe your bands sound to our HUGE audience.

LG: Don't even ask me those silly questions. Here is the address, if someone is interested in us they may write to: METAL AGE PRODUCTIONS, P.O. Box 42, 038 61 Vrutky, Slovakia. CD LUNATIC GODS "SITTING BY THE FIRE" cost $13 with P&P. Send your Mickey mouse money first, I don't trust anybody.

MR: Would you like to say a few words to all the people that want to kill themselves?

LG: They can kill themselves. This fucking world is just for strong people not for week ones who can't sort out their problems.

MR: Do you like BRUTAL TRUTH on a ritz cracker? What else would you like on a ritz cracker? (In case you didn't understand this question it's an inside joke for readers of Metal Rules! since the beginning. In issue #3 I interviewed Inhumate and they were obviously infatuated with Brutal Truth. I asked them if everything tastes good on a ritz cracker and they didn't understand the question. I responded with Do you think Brutal Truth tastes good on a Ritz?? Uhhh...Never mind...It wasn't really funny was it? -Jeff)

LG: I only really like Ritz crackers with BRUTAL TRUTH flavour!!!!!!! I'm so fed up that they are not in our shops. Then I'm shouting and screaming at her, when she starts crying and then she runs to the warehouse. At the end she came with my crackers. She is hiding them because they are very popular in cats population. (What? Who is he talking about? His answer started off normal and then went somewhere else. Maybe the Acid is kicking in?-Jeff)

MR: Is Slovakia really a shithole or is that only the way it looks on TV?

LG: Have you got a TV? The last time that I saw pictures of the USA on TV I was really worried about you. It seems to me you're a really poor country. I heard that you were attacking one European country just because of the food. Is it true? (Yep! They got the Best Brutal Truth Ritz crackers in the World! That's why you can't find them in your shops and she is crying and running to the warehouse and fucking up your cat population. -Jeff)

MR: What are you fighting for again?

LG: I'm sorry, but I didn't understand this question. Slovakia is a small country and we haven't had a fight for many years. By the time of our second war we had only a couple of shootings, nothing special. Maybe you are confused, there is SlovAKia and SlovENia. That's slightly different. (It is? What's a Slovenia? Isn't that a brand of Television set that used to be really popular.-Jeff)

MR: Would you like to perform fellatio on Bill Clinton?

LG: Of course, he is a politician, who improves the theory, that you can make a "Name" in a another way, not just talking about it. (Uh huh. I think Hirax may be one of those Basic Color Homosexuals.-Jeff)

MR: Would like be on VH1's "Where Are They Now?" Where are you now?

LG: We've already been there. I think that was a month ago. These days we plan to go to Vatican TV. The real name of show is the BRUTAL GORE SHOW and the announcer is an old man. All the people call him "pope", I'm not sure why but I'm sure it's OK! (That episode of VH1's "Where Are They Now" was recently aired and it outperformed even the Leif Garret special in viewing numbers! The BRUTAL GORE SHOW is now on the WB right after The Jamie Foxx show! -Jeff)

MR: Underwear?

LG: Only plastic ones with a zipper in the front and back as well. (Got to have easy access for other Basic color homosexuals.-Jeff)

MR: Would you be upset if we bought your CD used at Tunes? (Tunes is a used CD store chain in my area. They carry *Metal Rules! Magazine* there so they rule!-Jeff)

LG: I'll be fucking angry! Don't even try it, I'll put you on GWAR's menu . A friend of mine tried and he couldn't make a poop for a week.

MR: You do realize that I'm naked as I type this?

LG: Could you wait for a moment I left the lawn mower on and I think that I just lost my neighbor. I'm back again. What was the question? Oh yeah, everything is O.K., you are just normal like me. When I write I have to cut my dogs tail and spread ink so you can read it with no problems. (So, that's why it's so perfectly legible.-Jeff)

MR: My monitor on my computer keeps shutting down. What's wrong with it?

LG: You have to stop pressing "on-off", it may help. Did it work? (Yeah, thanks!-Jeff) ***See, I told you, Silly Billy.***

MR: Are you honored to be in the sexcellent *Metal Rules! Magazine*?

LG: You wrote me that you have already received my first financial payment for this interview. Don't worry, I have money like cows in a stable. Anytime you're in trouble just give me a ring, I'll send you some. This is a message for all the people in your country with this problem. Give them my address.

MR: Are you stuck on bandaids cause bandaids stuck on me? (See answer to question #6-Jeff)

LG: Our music has no limits, you can even say that this is something, that means we are independent. "We playing mad LUNATIC METAL and we will stay like that to our death!" - said Hirax and it'll be like that.

MR: Any last words to our Metal fans? Any stuff you'd like to sell and promote?

LG: O.K., tha'ts the last question and I'll answer that in a normal way. We started as Bestialit and we did a debut split CD with Dehydrated. We played Classic Death-Grind, then we changed our name to LUNATIC GODS and away we went to Italy to Polyphemus Records. We did the Inhuman & Insensible CD. Than we did the second one Sitting By The Fire at Metal Age Productions. We play Black, Death, Doom, Psycho, Grind and Heavy Metal. We are the most beautiful and original group from East Europe.

That's all for now. Thanks for fun Jeff.
If you've got any others info, question or interest there is my address:

metal.age@mt.sknet.sk

Stuart Smith

INTERVIEW

One of the earliest Guitar Heroes I ever got into was Ritchie Blackmore. I saw his name in an article about this guy named Stuart Smith in *Metal Edge Magazine* and that was enough for me to be e-mailing the guy for a CD to review. I quickly received one and what an incredible suprise it was. Sure, there is influence by Mr. Blackmore present but Stuart is by far his own entity. The man crafts songs like Van Gogh and plays like an angel and sometimes like a Devil! When he decided to release his latest masterpiece "Heaven And Earth" the Rock/Metal community embraced him and former members of HURRICANE, QUIET RIOT, RAINBOW, DEEP PURPLE, BON JOVI and more lent him their time! If you LOVE Rock and Blues that you should feel like crap that you don't own this CD yet. This guy is going to be HUGE!!!! Some how since the interview our similary pompous and smart ass attitudes have collided and I can now call this man my friend. So read on about the man that I affectionately call "Little Stuey Smith!"

Metal Rules!: Hello is this my little friend?
Stuart Smith: It certainly is.
MR: How you doing man?
Stuart: Is this my friend that is too cheap to pay for his own interview? (Of course.-Jeff)
MR: Oh man!
Stuart: I'm just starting it off early.
MR: (Laughs) You're prepared for a lot of fun then.
Stuart: Oh yeah.
MR: Do you got your guitar plugged in?
Stuart: No, I haven't. I just got out of the shower so you're gonna have to wait for that.
MR: You're not nude or anything are you?
Stuart: No, I'm not nude. Who's gonna be nude on an interview with you? You'll get ideas and shit.
MR: You got beers?
Stuart: Beers? No.
MR: You're not gonna toast with me?
Stuart: At this hour of night, you're starting early.
MR: Oh yeah. It's nine thirty here.
Stuart: Oh.
MR: Is that early there?
Stuart: It is but I've got my cigarettes with me.
MR: OK. You ready to begin?
Stuart: Yeah.
MR: Have you been nervous about this all day? Crying and stuff.
Stuart: Completely, I had to have major sedatives from a doctor for it.
MR: Oh my God. Sedatives and everything?
Stuart: No, we just went out had a few drinks, smoked a joint and just laughed about it.
MR: Can you hold on one second?
Stuart: What!
MR: Honey, is there a way to turn this up?
Stuart: Turn what up?
MR: Stuart's talking real quiet can you get him to talk louder? Does that go up higher? I can hear you but I just want to make sure the tape recorder can hear you.
Maria: I think that's the loudest it goes.
MR: OK you're just gonna have to yell for this entire interview.
Stuart: What's that?
MR: You're gonna have to yell for this entire interview.
Stuart: You've got another thing coming. (laughs) Is that the wife?
MR: Yeah ,that's Maria say hi.
Stuart: Hi Maria, my condolences.
Maria: Hi, thank you I need all the help I can get.
Stuart: I had a feeling that was the case.
Maria: (Laughs) Yes, please pray for me.
Stuart: I think that half the world out there that knows about him does.
Maria: (Laughs)
MR: Alright we're gonna start off right at the bat. Speaking of wives, you should have never brought this up to me. So let's get this over with. How did you end up being married to Heather Locklear's sister? How does something like that happen?
Stuart: She was working for me.
MR: She was working for you?
Stuart: Yeah.
MR: Oh wait didn't she do photography for the liner notes or something?
Stuart: Photography for the Album.
MR: See, I am paying attention. You like that?

Stuart: Yes, you are. She did the album cover. In fact, on the album cover originally I wanted a painting of a guy in a yoga pose. Where the body becomes a human sphere. Where it signifies becoming at one with Heaven and Earth. And I had all these guys doing the artwork and it looked like a child had drawn them. I thought this is nonsense. I just wasn't happy with any of it and then when we went to England to meet my parents and to do a concert for disease and on the way up we stopped at York where I was born. My grandmother died after I had come over to the States and I was too broke to go back, this was way back in '86, I was too broke to go back for her funeral. I found out her ashes had been scattered near this golf course so we drove up to the golf course and I took a slug of scotch from a flask and just took a walk up to one of the tees in her honor. On the way back Colleen snapped a couple of pictures, I didn't even know about it. We came back and I needed artwork for the album cover and she said, "Oh look at this". And it was the cover.
MR: That's cool.(Cool story but what's that have to do with How he became married to Heather Locklears sister?-Jeff)
Stuart: So that's how it came to be.
MR: So that's the album cover and you just fell in love from there?
Stuart: Oh no, we were already married.
MR: OK.
Stuart: A lot of the photos inside the album are ones that she collected over the years.
MR: Did she do that jammin' photo of you on the webpage? That photo where you're just jamming away.
Stuart: No, that's Jim Menzler. That's the guy who does my website for me.
MR: That's a good one. I like that shot.
Stuart: Yeah. That's one I've always liked that's why I included that in the album as well.
MR: And action shots are always necessary.
Stuart: Yeah.
MR: It's sort of like baseball cards.
Stuart: Yeah. Colleen is the artistic one. She put that all together and said where to put that one that I wanted in there.
MR: Cool OK. I want you to tell all the kids out there your history but remember this is a magazine and not a Bible so it can't be like the website.
Stuart: Right.
MR: You've got to condense it.
Stuart: Well, my father was a jet fighter pilot, he was like top gun of England. He was my hero growing up as a kid. At seven years old I picked up the guitar. We lived on RAF stations and we were going abroad and they gave me an acoustic guitar and it was a Blackmore, funny enough. I sort of could instantly play it and I had lessons at school and then I took classical lessons and this went on for years. Then I found out that I couldn't become a fighter pilot at age seventeen because I was color blind, apparently 76% of all males are color blind. You don't even know it.
MR: Yeah I have a little bit myself.
Stuart: It was just a part of everyday life I could just half see the color chart. Since I couldn't become a jet fighter pilot I tried working in electronics for a little while but that was the same problem after three months. So I just naturally fell into the guitar and haven't looked back since.
MR: But you were in a bunch of different bands though.
Stuart: Yeah, I played around England a lot with the various bands. I actually met Ritchie Blackmore who was my hero and who actually turned me on to Rock and Roll. DEEP PURPLE and rock.
MR: He's my hero too. The one song I can play on guitar is "Smoke on the Water."
Stuart: Oh really.(laughs)
MR: I only know that one note.
Stuart: I heard DEEP PURPLE and rock that turned me onto Rock and Roll and we became best friends and he taught me a lot on the guitar and his philosophy behind it. So I played in a lot of bands around England like you said.
MR: Did you play in a band with Bruce Dickinson or was I just imagining that?
Stuart: No, no, he was in SAMSON and wasn't happy with it and so we started to get a band together and then SAMSON got a deal so he went back to them.
MR: Back to MAIDEN?
Stuart: No, Bruce was in SAMSON at the time.
MR: He's my favorite singer of all time. Oh so between SAMSON and MAIDEN he was in the band with you? (Don't mind me, I can be really dumb sometimes and it was raining like a bitch when I recorded this.-Jeff)
Stuart: No, he was still in SAMSON and SAMSON hadn't got a record deal.
MR: Oh, OK.
Stuart: So Bruce and I started playing together. He wasn't exactly happy with the music anyway.
MR: With SAMSON or your music?
Stuart: With SAMSON.
MR: Oh OK.
Stuart: And we were sort of coming from the same sort of era. He was a Gillan fan and I was a Purple fan. So we started forming a band but then Samson got a record deal so the obvious thing for Bruce to do was to carry on with that.
MR: Yeah, he's a pretty cool guy.
Stuart: Yeah, Bruce is a very nice guy.
MR: Alright, why don't you tell us about your new record and some of the guests you have on it.
Stuart: Well I was playing at the time in a band with Keith Emerson (ELP) called "The Aliens of Extraordinary Ability." Which is a category with U.S. Immigration as to how you get to stay here. And I stayed under the category alien with an extraordinary ability. This means your not taking a job from an American basically. So we talked about that and we got approached by Samsung and asked to do a record but we said no because Keith was leaving for the ELP reunion with JETHRO TULL. And we didn't have any original material, I think we only had one original song at the time. So anyway eventually they saw me playing one night, jamming with some friends, and came back to my place to have a drink and they heard my own stuff and they offered me a deal. So that's how I got the deal with Samsung.

MR: Very cool. It seems like you have guest galore on there though.
Stuart: Yeah, well, then I started deciding who I wanted on the album. I invited so many friends I had worked with over the years that I wanted to be part of the whole thing. First call went to Joe Lynn Turner (Rainbow, Yngwie, Deep Purple etc,) who I had known for years and Joe said yeah whenever you need me I'll be there. First we had written some stuff together. My second call went to Richie Sambora (Bon Jovi) my brother-in-law and said "I don't want you to do this because you're my brother-in-law but I've always loved your singing. Would you sing a couple of songs on the album"? He said, "yeah sure, no one ever asks me to sing". (we laugh) So I sent the songs to him and he turned up with his guitar as well and said, "they're so good I want to play guitar on them as well". So he sang When a Blind Man Cries and just did phenomenally I mean he's such a great soulful voice
MR: He plays the dobro too, right?
Stuart: Yes.
MR: What is a dobro? (My idea of a joke. I start laughing like a ninny.-Jeff) I don't know what one is.
Stuart: Do you remember that DIRE STRAITS album with that silver guitar on the front?
MR: Uh huh.(I have no clue.-Jeff)
Stuart: That's a dobro.
MR: OK. Cause I'm like, "hey he's on the dobro. What's a dobro"?
Stuart: (finally he laughs) ***It's used for playing slide.***
MR: I'm a writer not a musician as you can tell.
Stuart: Yeah. (laughs) ***He came along and that he did on a separate day. Because we had actually recorded that track, I'd put the acoustic on it and Glenn Hughes sang to it I thought, "hey some dobro would go great with this or some slide guitar". So he came down with his dobro and the 2nd song we were going to do was "Do you ever think of me?" but when we got in to it, it was really in the wrong key for his voice. So we just left it with the one and he did the trail out solo on "Do You Ever Think of Me" and the dobro on the other one. Richie Onori who is my main drummer, he was with me in the Aliens the with Marvin Sterling and then...***
MR: Chuck Wright.
Stuart: Chuck Wright I had known for years, we had recorded together before. I had Chuck come in and do some stuff.
MR: Kelly Hanson.
Stuart: Kelly Hanson and Jay Schellen had been in a band together before which I had called, HEAVEN AND EARTH before I did the thing with Keith Emerson. In fact SWEET was going to reunite back in '96 and it was going to be myself, Keith Priest, Nick

Tucker and Brian Connoly because none of the other three wanted to work with Andy Scott again. Then we were planning this but the management that we had brought in didn't handle it properly and then Brian died and that kind of put the final nail in the coffin so to speak. So the SWEET reunion never happened and I joined up with Keith Emerson, but before that I was working with Kelly Hanson, Jay Schellen and Mike Terrana, who's a man that I've known for quite a few years. Who else have we got on there...Glenn Hughes.

MR: You're not asking me!?

Stuart: Glenn Hughes I hadn't seen him for a few years we were good friends but we had lost touch for a few years. I was going to have Paul Rodgers (Bad Company) sing that song but because of scheduling, Paul was getting ready to go on tour and didn't have time to do it and he was trying to decide which song he was going to do. Then Glenn heard it and said, "Oh that's for me". So I said, "Alright that's yours". So he came in and knocked that one out in about three hours flat that song. And most of it is first take stuff.

MR: Now who the hell are you gonna get for your next record?

Stuart: My next one? I'm not sure, obviously I like having the different singers. I want to see how it goes because I'm going to go out on the road soon and Joe Lynn Turner is probably gonna be the singer for the whole thing.

MR: That's cool.

Stuart: He's another Jersey boy.

MR: Is he?

Stuart: Yeah he lives in Jersey City.

MR: I always liked him in every band he's ever been in. In Yngwie and in RAINBOW, he always does a great job.

Stuart: Yeah he does and he's just a great soulful singer. I like soulful Bluesy singers and so he is gonna be on tour with me. So who knows the next record may just be the guys I have on tour with me. Or maybe it'll just be this revolving door kind of thing where I just have different people next time. There's a lot of people Johnny Lang, I'd like to have him sing a song. What I would really like is to work with someone like Mariah Carey who's like this great singer but always sings these sickly sweet songs and get her absolutely wasted in the studio and get her to sing something completely nasty.

MR: That would be cool. You know what would be really cool?

Stuart: What's that?

MR: During that let me play the dobro.

Stuart: Let you play the Dobro?

MR: Yeah you could teach me. You, me, Mariah Carey and I'll play the dobro.

Stuart: I think you should stick with your day job.

MR: (we Laugh) Yeah I think so too.

Stuart: Eric Clapton is another great singer I'd like to work with. There are so many good singers I'd like to work with. Plus there is Robby Wykoff who was in the Aliens with me. When I get this licensed world wide I'd like to put on as a bonus track there's a song that we wrote as the Aliens called "Eyes of Man" which Robby Wkcoff sings. So there are a lot of singers out there. It is also who I run into while on tour, because when you're on tour you tend to run into each other and meet new people. It also depends on who comes out and who shows promise. I like to have unknown people on albums because it gives them a bit of a chance. My friend Iain Hersey who plays on "Road to Melnibone" is a great guitar player and a good friend of mine but he's really struggling to get somewhere so I said look come in and write this song with me and play on it and you'll get some attention. He actually does have a deal now. So who knows who'll be on the next one, we'll see.

MR: One person that I found surprisingly missing was Ritchie. I thought you'd get him to play on it.

Stuart: Yeah the same with Keith Emerson. People say why aren't these two on, I just say you're dealing with a lot of people and trying to get all the schedules of everybody together is really hard. Ritchie was on tour, Keith Emerson is on tour at the time. We were waiting for them to finish the tours but they keep getting extended because they are doing so well. The record company is sort of pushing for a deadline so it didn't happen, I'm sure they'll be on the next one.

MR: Well since everyone is asking you Ritchie questions, I thought I'd ask you three that no one has ever asked you before.

Stuart: OK, let's hear them.

MR: Why does Ritchie never smile?

Stuart: (LAUGHS) ***He does I've got a ton of pictures of him smiling.*** (It's a half smile but what the hell.-Jeff) ***I guess whenever anyone points a camera at him when he is with DEEP PURPLE, I think he doesn't smile.***

MR: I've never seen a picture in my many many moons of Metal have I ever seen a picture of him smiling.

Stuart: He smiles a lot. He's a very humorous person; we have great fun going through Monty Python routines together.

MR: Oh that's cool I'd like to see that. Can he pull a rabbit out of his top hat?

Stuart: Out of his top hat?

MR: Yeah, he has that black top hat, I was wondering if he could pull a rabbit out of it.

Stuart: He's pretty good at his little magic tricks but I don't know if he has progressed to the rabbit out of the top hat yet.

MR: OK, Do you think he'd ever have the urge to kick Yngwie in the nuts?

Stuart: I doubt it. Why would he?

MR: I don't know he just bothered him for some reason.

Stuart: No, he met Yngwie once. Yngwie came back stage and said hello back when he was working with Joe Lynn Turner. But I think that is the only time he's met him. Yngwie was very heavily influenced by Ritchie he took a lot of his stage ideas from that. But he has developed into his own style which people eventually do anyway.

MR: So did anyone ever ask you those questions before?

Stuart: No, they were actually new questions.

MR: I thought you would enjoy that. (he laughs.)So when are you going to finish this website? I think that people are gonna be left off at '92 and be very confused.

Stuart: I think there is another page up there now. A lot of it is already written it's just when my webmaster can get around to putting it up. (He needs a shitload of time becaue this guys his story is like the Bible.-Jeff)

MR: Oh OK.

Stuart: What I'm gonna do is give you his phone number and every body can ask him why the pages aren't up.

MR: OK I'll do that. It's no problem. I've done a lot worse.

Stuart: I'm sure you have.

MR: I noticed that Crossroads is one of your favorite movies.

Stuart: Yes.

MR: Is it because of that Steve Vai solo at the end or is that just me?

Stuart: No. Steve is a great player; I'm not too much of a fan of that type of playing, the shred type playing. He does a great job in that. I like the whole concept behind the movie. I also love the Blues as well. But the sort of darkside of it is why it is one of my favorites. What he does at the end plus the Classical guitar playing in it.

MR: I thought it was cause you love the Karate Kid.

Stuart: No (He laughs.)

MR: You're a big fan of Ralph Macchio.

Stuart: I did karate for like eleven years, I could kick Ralph's ass.

MR: You think?

Stuart: I would think so.

MR: Even when he does that flamingo thing where he gets up on one foot?

Stuart: You mean the crane?

MR: Yeah.

Stuart: It's funny that is how I met Mike Terrana.

MR: Yeah, you kicked him in the face?

Stuart: No, he said to me "hey, I hear you do karate, what are you going to do about this?" and he went into the crane position because in the movie they say there is no defense against it. So I just stood on his foot and hit him about six times up and down his body.

MR: That's good, that's always good for friendship.

Stuart: I didn't hit him, I just touched to show that I had got him. If you stand on someone's foot they have no leverage to get off the ground. They say in the movie there is no defense against it, which is all well and good in the movie.

MR: So you just kind of kick them over?

Stuart: Yeah. (Pause and then much laughter then a huge pause)

MR: Are you there?

Stuart: Yeah.

MR: You got dead silent for a minute there I thought I might have to call a hospital or something.

Stuart: Oh no.

MR: Make sure you didn't pass out or something.

Stuart: No.

MR: I was looking at your list of favorite records of all times. I know that Metal isn't really your favorite cause I didn't see any Metal records in there. Could you name some just to make the kids happy?

Stuart: Some Metal records?

MR: Yeah.

Stuart: Well, there's HAMMERFALL.

MR: Oh yeah, are they great or what?

Stuart: Yeah.

MR: They were phenomenal, I just went and saw them in concert about a month ago.

Stuart: Yeah, the bass player, Magnus Rosen, used to play with me in a band called MIDNIGHT.

MR: Oh yeah, I met him, he doesn't speak much English does he?

Stuart: Oh no, he speaks fine.

MR: Maybe he just didn't want to talk to me.

Stuart: That's it he didn't want to talk to you.

MR: He went "blah blah."

Stuart: Actually he called me last week and said, "Oh you have to talk to this guy I just pretended I didn't speak English".

MR: (Laughs) Yeah, they have a copy of my magazine I gave a copy to Oscar (Oscar Dronjak, the guitar player- Angus).

Stuart: Oh really.

MR: Yeah, I was supposed to an interview with them but there was this whole big mix up and I don't want to get into it. I showed up I talked to the band and then the publicist said she didn't want me to take a tape recorder so I said OK I'll just take my editor in with me to take notes.

Stuart: They didn't want you to tape the interview?

MR: They said I couldn't bring it in the stadium (If you can call the Troc a stadium.-Angus) So I said, "What am I supposed to do?" But she wouldn't tell me so I figured I'll take my Editor in to take notes, what's the big deal? But she said, "That it was very unprofessional you should have brought a tape recorder". But I said, "You told me not to bring a tape recorder", you know one of those deals.

Stuart: Yeah. There's Axel Rudi Pell, I think he's really excellent.

MR: Yeah, I saw he signed your guest book. See how observant I am?

Stuart: Oh yeah, you've been through the thing you've done your homework.I'm proud of you.

MR: Yeah.

Stuart: Yeah Axel Rudi Pell is very good. There's a lot of stuff I haven't got a chance to listen to. I've got a ton of CDs that have been sent to me by the record company just in a pile. I'm just so busy especially with "Heaven and Earth" taking off like it is. (Busy on the computer all day, Damn Yenta!-Jeff) ***I'm doing so many interviews and doing the licensing and getting the band ready to tour. I don't have a chance to listen to this stuff. I was a great fan of stuff like DEEP PURPLE, BLACK SABBATH and JUDAS PRIEST when I was growing up. In my younger days DEEP PURPLE was the only one that really stuck with me and came through that whole period with me. I'm mostly a fan of Ritchie and his guitar playing. Yeah Axel is great, he's got a thing out and I love what Yngwie's done with the orchestra, not exactly Metal but you know he's got some good albums out.***

MR: Yeah. We had to talk about Metal a little or else they'll be like what's this doing in here unless I talk about it (YOU! The Metal minions!-Jeff). I have to get you in here this is my little sneak attack thing here.

Stuart: OK.

MR: Do you feel that a proper British bloke, such as yourself, who lives in the Hollywood Hills can properly feel the blues?

Stuart: Oh yeah

MR: How do you feel them?

Stuart: It's like Ralph Macchio got told in that movie. The Blues is just a good man feeling bad. The Blues is just expressing yourself on the guitar, an emotion on the guitar, there is emotions that I think you go through when you play. One of the things that Ritchie Blackmore taught me was the philosophy behind the guitar, to try an draw on things when you are playing a song. Like an actor would draw on say a period in his life when he was very unhappy to do a sad scene and I think you do that with the guitar. It's very hard but you have to put yourself into a time in your life that was sad. Everyone has been through a period in their life when they were feeling lonely, dejected, and heart broken. So you try and draw back on that and rather than let it fester into anger you call it up at certain times when you are playing the guitar. I mean if I'm playing an angry song I'll think back to a time when I felt really angry about something.

MR: Were you angry on "Lose My Number?"

Stuart: Not angry no.

MR: That song kicks ass.

Stuart: Yeah.

MR: That's my favorite song on there.

Stuart: It's meant in an angry way. Yeah I guess I drew on that. So yes I think a white man living here in the Hollywood Hills can feel the Blues.

MR: Very cool. Would you ever consider cutting your hair short? My wife wanted to know this question, we always give her a little place in the sun.

Stuart: Is she fantasizing about me? (This is an ongoing thing with Stuart. He's a bit delusional.-Jeff)

MR: I don't know about that. She's got me what would she want with you?

Stuart: I think you just answered that one.

MR: (Laughs) She thinks she could give you a nice poodle cut.

Stuart: No. Since the album I've actually cut a few inches off but no I haven't gone the short haired route yet.

MR: OK, but if you stop by and change your mind we'll hook you up.

Stuart: I'm sure you will.

MR: I see you're a fan of Chinese food.

Stuart: Yes, I love Chinese food.

MR: Do you like Cream of Some Young Guy?

Stuart: No, I never heard of it. How do you say it?

MR: Cream of Some Young Guy.

Stuart: It's probably something disgusting that you're bringing up.

Stuart's buddy Jasmin St. Clair

MR: (Laughs) What would make you think that?

Stuart: Just knowing you.

MR: Did you know that the song "Do You Ever Think of Me" is almost the same opening as "Unskinny Bop" by POISON?

Stuart: No, I didn't notice that.

MR: Did you ever hear that song?

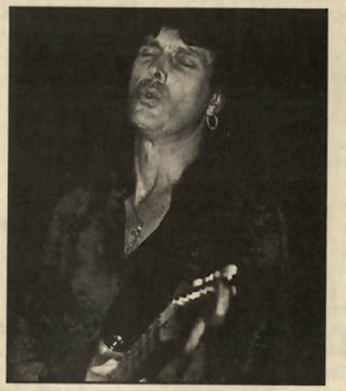
Stuart: I think I can kind of remember it, sing it for me. (Poor Stuart didn't realize just what he was getting himself into here. -Jeff)

MR: (Singing) Unskinny Bop, Blows me away. You know that song.(You should hear KING DIAMOND in the next issue when I

sing "The Candle" to him.-Jeff)
Stuart: Yeah, I remember it.
MR: That's why I'm playing the dobro on your album and not singing.
Stuart: Yeah, right. I don't know, I don't remember the song.
MR: Well if CC comes up to you with his pink hair all mad and stuff. You better be prepared.
Stuart: Well, this one was done with good guitar players so it just doesn't compare.
MR: Oh Jeez.(LAUGHS) oh boy... You're not a fan of CC's?
Stuart: Is there any?
MR: I like CC.
Stuart: He's a nice guy I jammed with him on stage once.
MR: I think I saw a picture of that. I see you're friends with the guys from WARRANT.
Stuart: Oh yeah. I've known Janie for a long time. I think he's a very underrated singer.
MR: Is he still fat?
Stuart: No, he quit drinking about a year ago and he is all trimmed down now. He's looking really good now I just got up and jammed with him at the Roxy in Hollywood. Yeah, they're a great bunch of guys. I thought "Cherry Pie" was a phenomenal album. I wasn't too knocked out with the Alternative route they took for a while.
MR: You didn't like "Dog Eat Dog" I thought that was a great record?
Stuart: You know I'm not sure. Is that the one where they went really Alternative?
MR: No, it's really heavy and surprisingly good. If you ever get a chance pick it up.
Stuart: Yeah. I'm really a great fan of dynamics in music. You say I'm not mentioning too much Metal but in my music I've got part Metal there. Being Classicaly trained and being into Hard Rock and Heavy Metal and also playing the Blues I'm coming from so many different places to sort of know where to go. So I incorporating all of it in there. I like stuff like WARRANT's "Uncle Tom's Cabin," which I think is one of the greatest songs ever written, (It's a good song but let's not push it.-Jeff) ***it has this swampy sort of music in then beginning and then the band just kicks in and then it goes down again. I think a lot of the Metal bands sort of miss that which is a shame because there's so many great players in there. You just don't know it because from one end of the song to the other they are just CHUGUG there's no dynamics in there so I think you're missing a lot of the talents they have.***

MR: Yeah, I get a lot of crap for liking them.
Stuart: Who WARRANT?
MR: Yeah, I get a lot of crap from the Metal Community they don't appreciate me liking them.
Stuart: Oh, I love to see Janie Lane he's probably one of the best singers. In fact he was one of the ones that I wanted to appear on the album but we had lost touch and the next album I hope to have him on there.
MR: Let me ask you a question, do you know Erik?
Stuart: Yes, I do.
MR: He hates my guts.
Stuart: Well, I can't blame him for that.
MR: You have to ask him, do you have his home phone number, can you call him?
Stuart: No. I've got Janie's.
MR: Well you'll run into him?
Stuart: Yeah.
MR: Well next time you see him tell him you did an interview with this magazine.
Stuart: Oh OK. Why does he hate your guts?
MR: Well we do this thing called Savage E-Mail.
Stuart: Yeah.
MR: Well, Actually it started off, WARRANT was supposed to play a concert in Philadelphia and they canceled for no reason and we sat at this club 'til like 2am waiting for them to show up and they never did. I didn't think about it for a couple of months but one day I saw Erik's e-mail address in *Metal Edge*. So I emailed him to ask about it and he wrote back to me "What the fuck are you talking about." And I thought that was kind of dickish way to treat a fan.
Stuart: Yeah really.
MR: So I tore into him saying you would think they would show up for the few fans that were there and bought the last two crappy albums and supported you. So it turned into this really good battle so I printed it in the magazine and it went over really well. (Stu's laughing away) He sent viruses and stuff to my system it was like twenty-seven messages back and forth. He hasn't forgotten about it because around Christmas time I sent him a little Christmas card thing and he sent me back a giant middle finger.
Stuart: You two like have a little relationship going back and forth.
MR: Well at least on this end and I hope on his end too it became a fun thing to do. It was like an insult war back and forth. He was using mom jokes and everything. But I thought it was fun and now if I was to see him I would like to have a beer with him but he would probably want to kick me in the nuts or something. You'll find out if you ever ask him about it.
Stuart: I will, I will. I actually saw him at a party the other day.
MR: And you'll have to e-mail me and tell me what he says.
Stuart: I will.
MR: I think that he had a good time with it but I could be wrong. He could be very bitter about it.
Stuart: Yeah, he was probably just messing with you.
MR: It was funny though. I'll have to send you a copy of that issue if you want.
Stuart: Yeah, sure.
MR: You'll get a kick out of it and see who was the better insulter.
Stuart: Well, you're pretty good.
MR: Yeah, I think I ate him alive.
Stuart: You'll have to try a fight with me sometime.
MR: But I don't want to fight with you I like you. You haven't irritated me yet.
Stuart: Well, there's time. (Since then I played a great trick on him but he crushed me with a better one in return. You'll have to e-mail him about it.-Jeff)
MR: Yeah, give me a few minutes. You said before that you were touring.
Stuart: Paul Rodger's manager Chris Crawford is working to set up dates at the moment. Hopefully in a few weeks we'll get the band out here and start rehearsing and just get on with it. I can't wait to get there and play I've spent so long in the studio it's driving me crazy. I'm just dying to get on the road.
MR: You're so bored you're talking to *Metal Rules! Magazine*.
Stuart: I know.
MR: You've hit the skids.
Stuart: This is what happens when you don't get out on the road you spend a night talking to you.
MR: Oh God. I missed the Monica Lewinsky interview for you. So you should feel honored.
Stuart: You're The Monica Lewinsky of Metal.
MR: Yeah, that's me. Are you gonna come around here?
Stuart: Oh yeah.
MR: We'll have to have dinner the four of us, our wives.

Stuart:Oh yeah.
MR: We'll get together and talk in person.
Stuart: Yeah I don't know if Colleen will put you on the guest list. She's in charge of production. I don't know, Colleen! (He calls her.) ***She's funny like that you know.***
MR: What!? Are you insulting me? You were kidding right?
Stuart: Your wife can come in but you have to pay double.
MR: OK. We'll have a good time. We'll have some beers and some laughs.
Stuart: Sounds good whereabouts are you in Jersey?
MR: I'm near Philly. So you play any place in Philly then we're all set.
Stuart: Yeah we'll be out there sometime this year. I'm just dying to get out there and play. I'm looking forward to it.
MR: Can I ask Colleen questions about you now?
Stuart: Yeah! Hold on. (Talking to his wife) ***Colleen do you have a minute? He wants to ask you some questions about me. She'll probably give you really shitty answers.*** (Laughs)
MR: (Laughs) I just want to tell her one thing.
Stuart: Hold on
Colleen: Hello.
MR Hello, Colleen?
Colleen: Yes.
MR: I just want to set you straight for a minute about your husband. Just so you know this. When I first talked to him he referred to you as Heather Locklear's sister and not Colleen.
Colleen: I believe it.
MR: I had to set him straight. I just wanted you to be aware of that. (Laughs)
Colleen: (Laughs) ***I am aware of that.***
MR: He was quizzing my wife so I figured I had to quiz you too.
Colleen: OK, why Thanks.
MR: Do you think he would look good with a poodle cut?
Colleen: He used to have a poodle cut...
(Stuart moans in the background)
MR: He did huh?
Colleen: He looked pretty bad, but it doesn't really matter what you do.
MR: Yeah.
Colleen: Yeah.
MR: Is he really doing all this climbing and stuff? (He's always climbing like Mt Everest in his back yard or something or so he claims.-Jeff)
Colleen: No.
MR: I didn't think so.
Colleen: He climbs in and out of bed and that's about it.
MR: Yeah, I thought so, because I talk to him all day on the e-mail and it just seems he is always there.(She laughs) So I don't know what he is talking about. (Laughs all around) Then he has the nerve to say when I said, "All four of us should get together when you come to Philly", he said, "I'll see". He said, "That it was up to you" so I said, "Ah come on, Colleen loves me".
Colleen: (Laughing with love) ***Do you Live in LA?***
MR: No, I live in New Jersey. But when you come down here we. should get together.
Colleen: Oh yeah!
MR: You need a friend in Philly.
Colleen: That's a fact.
MR: Do you have friends in Philly?
Colleen: No.
MR: OK, then now you will.
Colleen: Alright.
MR: You will have *Metal Rules! Magazine*. It doesn't get any better than that.
Colleen: That's right.
MR: He's gonna be the King Metalhead now.
Colleen: Oh really?
MR: Yeah, this is his best exposure yet. Alright I won't take any more of your time.
Colleen: OK well, nice talking to you.
MR: Nice talking to you too.
Colleen: Stuart interrupted me when I was talking.
MR: You wanted to ask me something?
Colleen: Yeah, why the hell are you interviewing Stuart?
MR: I don't know. He's not Metal but he seems like a nice enough lad.
Colleen: He's OK. Alright I'll talk to you later.
Stuart: Yeah, she's going to...
MR: What the hell is she doing with you? She seems like a nice lady.
Stuart: You just don't know her.



MR: Oh, OK.
Stuart: Dinner with you guys? We would rather eat ourselves (Laughs) (What a nasty boy!-Jeff)
MR: She kind of sounds like her sister.
Stuart: Her?
MR: I could be wrong I've never talked to her sister on the phone.
Stuart: No, you haven't.
MR: I talked to her once in real life.
Stuart: Did you?
MR: Many moons ago when I was in California.
Stuart: What dream was this in?
MR: This was not a dream. Somehow I waggled my way into a party that she was at and I got to talk to her and at the time she was with Tommy Lee.
Stuart: How long before you got thrown out?
MR: About thirteen seconds. (We both Laugh) No actually I made it the whole night. There is the trick that you act like you belong and you belong. It's like when you're not twenty-one and you go in a bar. You just walk up to the counter with the six pack you don't go, ah do you need ID? (Sound advice from Jeff but of course this magazine doesn't encourage the use of alcohol by those under the legal drinking age. -Angus) You know what I mean?
Stuart: I never had that problem.
MR: No. Well you're sixty-three years old why would you have that problem?
Stuart: Well, for starters the legal drinking age is sensible in England, you don't have to be twenty-one. It is ridiculous out here, you can go out and die for your country but you can't...
MR: Isn't it twenty-one in England now? I thought it was the last time I was out there.
Stuart: No. It's eighteen.
MR: I was there once, you would be proud of me.
Stuart: They let you into the country?
MR: I went to England, yeah.
Stuart: Oh my God, it is going downhill.
MR: Yeah, I went into the Marquee!.
Stuart: Yeah, I started out there.
MR: Yeah, I saw WOLFSBANE there. Blaze Bayley.
Stuart: Yeah, I remember the Marquee well, I played a lot of shows there.
MR: That's a nice place but I pictured it to be much bigger.
Stuart: Yeah, that's a tiny little place.
MR: Yeah, I saw videos of it for years and I just never knew how big it was.
Stuart: Yeah, tiny little place.
MR: I don't have much more for you here. Except of course are you honored to be in *Metal Rules! Magazine*?
Stuart: I'm thrilled.
MR: Are you? Is this a big moment for you?
Stuart: It's a thrilling moment.

MR: That's great. Now I have to ask you would you like to cut a message for my answering machine?

Stuart: (Stuart starts stuttering like Ozzy) ***You would like a message for your answering machine?***

MR: Yeah, if you're not gonna do what you did just now. You can be as creative as you want to, just don't use any profanity because like I said Steve Vai did and her (Maria) parents got pissed of because he kept saying dick on there so they weren't too happy about that.

Stuart: So I can't say, "Hi this is Jeff's Gay Emporium."

MR: You can say that, it'll go over well. Homo says what?

Stuart: Yeah, I'm just waiting for the tape to run.

MR: OK.

Stuart: Are you putting it on this tape?

MR: Yeah. That's why I asked you about your guitars. So you have to go get your guitar now.

Stuart: OK, hang on. (Pause) ***Jeff?***

MR: Yeah.

Stuart: Hang on I just have to plug in my guitar.

MR: Who was that trying interrupt us now, it wasn't Erik Turner was it?

Stuart: No, it was my neighbor. No, Joe Lynn Turner?

MR: No. Erik Turner.

Stuart: No, he warned me about this interview though. I suppose you want it in tune don't you?

MR: Yeah. What I want is some nice guitar like your style but then for the message I want you to play some crazy Metal thing.

(Stuart is tuning up)

Stuart: You know this is hard my roadie isn't here I'm not used to tuning.

MR: Oh come on. Do you ever consider yourself like Kato Kaelin with talent?

Stuart: No, do you?

MR: I don't know. Wow, that thing is really out of whack isn't it?

Stuart: No, it is pretty much in. Well we need a Metal sound for this something kick ass, hold on.

(Stuart starts running through some solo style riffs to warm up)

MR: Good now this is what I want you to say unless you have some thing better. "This is little Stewie Smith and you've reached the offices of *Metal Rules!* And Jeff wants me to play a little note for you." And then do a little solo.

Stuart: Are you ready to start?

MR: Yup we've been taping this whole thing.

(Stuart flubs his line)

MR: Oh come on. Alright take two.

Stuart: Hi, you've reached the offices of Metal Rules! And Jeff would like me to play something for you, this is Stuart Smith, so here you go. (Guitar riff starting slow and building leaning towards a Blues feel sort of mellowing out in the middle and then ending suddenly) ***Metal Rules!***

MR: Did you enjoy that?

Stuart: I certainly did.

MR: Now see how much exposure I'm giving you? You're even on the machine now.

Stuart: Yeah, I'm on someone's answering machine, my God.

MR: Now when all these Death Metal dudes call they'll be like, "who?"

Stuart: They better buy some damn albums after this, I'm telling you.

MR: Yeah. Now I'll give you your last little hurrah. Do you have anything you would like to say to the kids out there in Metal land?

Stuart: Yeah, I can't wait to see you all out on tour.

MR: Very good. Do you want to sell your record?

Stuart: Do I want to sell my record? Of course I do.

MR: Do you have T-shirts?

Stuart: Not yet, they're in the works.

MR: Do you want to tell them about your website?

Stuart: Yeah. They can hear sound bites of the album at WWW.STUARTSMITH.COM . They can get the correct spelling from you if you spell it right.

MR: Yeah I will.

Stuart: It's actually gonna be in Tower Records in the next week anyway.

MR: Very cool. So they can go out and buy it and they won't be sorry will they?

Stuart: No,they won't be sorry.

MR: Very good.

Stuart: They might be sorry they are associated with you.

MR: Probably. (At this point several minutes have passed and it turns out that Stuart has a fun story involving Steve Vai.)

Stuart: I know Steve Vai and he used to live around the corner from me but now it is just his recording studio. He actually moved to the Valley. Anyway behind my house is a trail up into Bronson Canyon which leads up to the Hollywood sign and I used to go up there running and walking part of the way with some friends. I saw Steve Vai up there and he just goes running up the hill and running all the way down the hill just leaving us in the dust. Major fit.

MR: What was he mad about? (With his damn Cockney accent I thought he said Major pissed.-Jeff)

Stuart: Oh, he wasn't mad about anything . He is just majorly fit.

MR: Oh, he was just running like a madman.

Stuart: Yeah, he is just fit and in real good condition.

MR: He looks pretty skinny so I guess he does running.

Stuart: Oh yeah, he does he just runs up that hill.

MR: So he could kick your ass in a race.

Stuart: I don't about now I've been up there running a lot. Getting into the shape he was in when he used to live here. I don't know, he's probably still running so he could probably kick my ass in a race. (We then babble about Crossroads for about 10 minutes. I try the Homo says what? again to no reaction.)

MR: I got one more question for you. I know you and Ritchie (Blackmore) are really into the Occult. Did you ever have any experiences to cause you to poop your pants?

Stuart: Not really scary. Some people would find it scary but we were pretty much used to it. We go on ghosthunting trips together and seances. We've seen the glass fly off the table and shatter on the wall. Somtimes there is really negative energy happening all around when you open this big doorway. Negative spirits work off fear and shock. It's like a big cat. Like a tiger or some thing if you show you're afraid it will attack you but if you relax it will leave you alone and you can play around with it. Spirits work the same way. When the glass flys off the table me and Ritchie are unimpressed and just say "Uh Not interested!" (They are like the Ghostbusters of the 90's!-Jeff) ***You can tell the spirits are like "Didn't I scare you?" and we're like "No, we're not interested in talking to you."***

MR: My underwear would have been soiled at that point.

Stuart: Oh no, there is nothing they can do to you. We're very calm.

MR: The spirits are dumb asses huh?

Stuart: Yeah! They're like you.

MR: I call myself a "Smitty" of the underworld. (What am I talking about?-Jeff)

Stuart: Yeah, Colleen would probably agree with you. (Why is he pretending to know what I'm talking about?-Jeff)

MR: She (Colleen) seems pretty cool.

Stuart: Yeah, she's VERY cool.

MR: She has a good sense of humor like my wife. Took me a long time to find a woman to put up with my sense of humor and antics.

Stuart: It probably took you a long time to find a woman that would even sleep with you.

MR: (Laughs) I had to beg her and pay her $30! I gave her one of those knock out pills. You know, a baseball bat to the back of her skull.

Stuart: That's what she told me the other day. (See what I mean... delusional.-Jeff)

MR: Man, I was nice to your wife. I just had to tell her the "truths" (Special thanks to Eric Henderson for inventing this theory.-Jeff) You have to stop calling her Heather Locklear's sister because that's probably a pain in the ass for her. I'm sure she's a great person on her own. It must be a pain in the ass to have to live in the shadows of a famous sibling.

Stuart: You're right. (Of course I am!-Jeff) ***You'll meet her when we come out to play. Hopefully will have time to have dinner with you and Maria and hang out.***

MR: Yeah, you seem like good people. It was a pleasure talking to you.

Stuart: Likewise. You make a VERY intersting and fun interview.

MR: I'm not your normal interviewer. (Stu then goes off about unprepared press that don't read bios, booklets or web sites before doing an interview and then he kisses my ass about how special I am. Well, not really but he did appreciate that I was VERY prepared!) Maybe you should make Rappaport your stage name?

Stuart: Actually, I was going to make it St.Clair?

MR: What did you want to be a porno star? (Stu then tells me that he knows her through Ralph of the SCORPIONS. I didn't know whether to believe him or not. Is there really a guy named Ralph in the SCORPIONS? It sounds like he's from Happy Days. Well, I met Jasmin and not only does she know Ralph(She dated him) but she called Stuart" The Hot Guy!" Man, this fucker really does know everybody. -Jeff) Alright man, I'll let you go now. Give me a call. (We then babble all kinds of crap because we love irritating each other so much-Jeff)

Stuart: I will. Bye. Say bye to Maria (C'mon already-Jeff)

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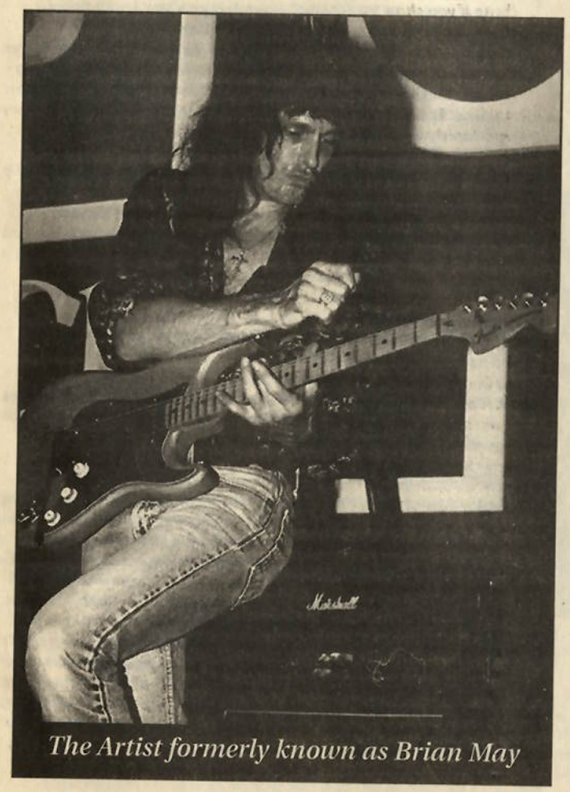


The Artist formerly known as Brian May

Vanilla Ice

I know a lot of you when you saw this in here assumed it would be fake. Guess what? It's real. This was the very 1st in-person interview I have everdone. I got to the Trocadero (Philadelphia Club) about 4:30 for the 5:00 interview that was planned. In-person interviews are a pain in the sac to get started especially when dealing with the Troc. Go around the front....go around the back....who are you here for?....blah..blah..I finally just decided to call Mr. Ice's managers cell phone to find out what was up? It was a call that cost me $15, it seems he may have been in Philly but his cell phone is from Hawaii!! We straighten out a New time which gave me time for me and my wife (Did I mention that she came with me?) to get some Japanese food and more importantly some Saki! (My buzz was wearing off!) Luckily, I ordered a pot of saki which gave me my buzz back and then some. This pot was never-ending. Now, I felt good. Well, until I had to deal with the Troc again and then hear how Ice's Manager was told I was there and he said "Uh, Huh!" So can I go in then? No, I can't because his manager just said "Uh, huh!" and didn't say "Let Him in!" Do I like dealing with the Troc? Anyway, his manager finally comes to get us and we're in. They lead us backstage and tell us that as soon as Ice is off the phone we'll do the interview. We stand there watching him not 3 feet from us as he talks on the phone and I'm thinking about how weird this is. He finishes up and we get introduced and we travel the backstage area looking for a spot to do the interview. I turn down his first two suggestions which were directly behind the stage (Loud as Hell!) and a big room that had some dude passed out on the floor in it and people constantly flowing through. He then turns down my 1st suggestion, the weight room. Maybe, he's afraid I would challenge him to a bench off. We finally agree on this room with a door that closes. The room has maybe one working bulb and it's flickering. It's dark and seedy. Perfect! I first give him his very own copy of Metal Rules! Magazine and an Official Metal Rules! T-shirt! He responds "Killer!" with each gift and wondered aloud "Who's that guy?" when looking at my face on the T-shirt. "What a character!" he exclaims! We both laugh and he says "Thank You!" obviously appreciating the gifts.

MR: Now bear with me here, I had a hard time coming up with these questions because of the way you get beaten up in the press. I was trying to write questions but trying not to piss you off. So we'll have some fun questions.

Vanilla Ice: I don't get beaten up quite as often as I used to. (Laughs)

MR: You can talk as much as you like, I don't edit what you say, so the longer you talk the longer the interview. First thing, did you know that your tour manager John Bush has the same name as the singer from ANTHRAX?

VI: John Bush, yeah really, killer. I like ANTHRAX, dude.

MR: That's some Metal for you there. Well how is the tour going so far?

VI: Awesome. Overwhelming. Completely being blessed. Its fucking killer, I mean I had no idea what to expect putting this record out being completely different than anything I have ever done. And plus kind of starting over again with that stigma attached to me so its like to see this whole brand new body piercing, tattooed, stage diving, crazy crowd coming out to embrace me and there is a shit load of them. There's like this underground following. We had some radio play but for the most part this records really not a radio record. Then to see so many people come out is just fucking awesome man. Like I said I had no idea what to expect and its just amazing. All the shows have been sold out, pretty much. We played a 10,000 seater in Padre, just last week we played an 8,000 seater in Panama. Went to Penn State sold it out, went to Buffalo sold it out. All the people that couldn't get in there drove all the way to last night's show.

MR: You losing your voice now? (It had obviously been abused.)

VI: Oh yeah, its fried.

MR: Yeah I can hear it. (We laugh) I was gonna ask what kind of crowd you're getting but from the crowd out front, it looks like you have a surprisingly pretty young crowd out there. You've got a lot of fifteen and sixteen year olds out there in line. That's like all we saw out there which is really surprising cause I thought you would get the KORN, SEPULTURA kind of crowd.

VI: That's for the most part what it's been. Last night was a younger crowd as well. But I think that was the first time last night as well and this is probably the second time tonight. For the most part it has been the LIMP BIZKIT, KORN crowd. Older eighteen to twenty-one but you know its an all ages show, we don't restrict anybody. If you're into the music come on out the music's not aimed any age bracket. It's for anybody's ears. (We were then interrupted by John Bush telling Ice he was going to pick up some dude at the Airport and get a bite to eat. Ice told him not to go without him. He was doing the interview and then wanted some food. He was starved. Maybe, next time I'll bring a picnic for my interview subject.)

MR: How did you like working with Ross Robinson?

VI: Fucking awesome.

MR: He's a young guy isn't he? He looked very young.

VI: Thirty-two, I think, thirty-one.

MR: He looks like he's in his twenties.

VI: Yeah, he looks young. He's a vegetarian so maybe that helps him. Plus he didn't have to go on the road, maybe that helps too. You get older out on the road.

MR: Do you like any of the bands he works with? Like KORN, SEPULTURA and...

VI: Sure, I love 'em all. Pretty much for the most part I like everything he's done. Definitely, I just can't say enough great things about the guy. He's just super-talented, you know a huge heart. A lot of people get the wrong impression about him, because I've read a lot of stuff about him saying that he throws guitars against walls and really gets crazy and shit. Which is true but he's not mean about it, there is a different thing. If a musician is just sitting down with his headphones on and he's recording that's just not gonna fly with Ross. He will be trying to concentrate on his playing and shit, not messing up and Ross will come in and say "Fuck all that shit get up fuckin' give me some of that anger." And what he will do is before we play he'll find something out about everybody, like really deep and personal something that really bothers them and he'll mention that in there. He'll say "Think about your dad when he was whipping your ass." Or something like that when you were this or that and just fucking pull that out of you. And fucking yeearrgh!! And give you one of those. So while we're recording it's not like a recording session that you see most people do. It's more like everybody is like fuckin' yeearrgh!! (At this point he starts bouncing around like a Mental patient and Maria and I just smile but are preparing to run....) ***We're recording and he just catches the energy. In the beginning I heard him record like this and then I seen him record like that and I'll tell you it's two different songs.***

MR: Is that your crew out there now?

VI: Yeah.

MR: They're playing OVERKILL riffs. (The opening bass line to "Powersurge" off of *Taking Over* to be exact.) Very cool. I just interviewed them they'll be in the same issue as you. What other Metal bands do you like?

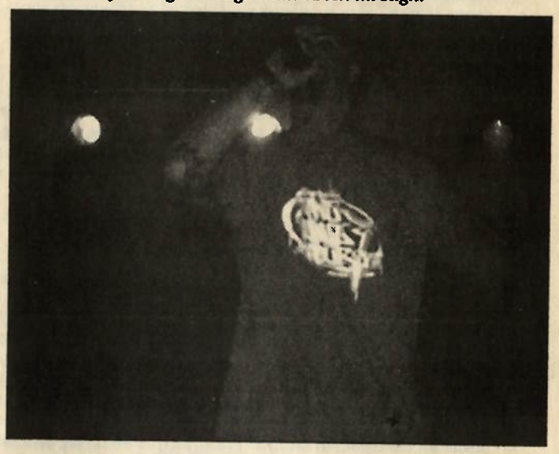
VI: My favorite band is SLAYER and I like PANTERA, they're from Dallas, pretty cool. But I'm definitely into the heavy shit. I've changed musically personally because of all the things I've been through. The stuff I'm writing about now contains a lot of anger, a lot of anxiety and depression. It's fucked up that, that is the shit I remember, but that left the impression on my brain like a tattoo. I wish I could remember some great things but I don't have too many great things that happened to me in the last ten years. So it's been a rough road for me, pretty much. That is what I'm writing about and that's what music should be about. I really believe that it's unfortunate that I never got to do that until now but at least I got the chance to do that now. So I'm grateful for that. Yeah, venting through the music exactly and using it as my therapy and fuck the image. Now I have an anti-image, which is just being myself now because of what everything was before, being a puppet for a record company. Record company whore whatever you want to call it, they were pulling all the strings and had everything staged for me and all that shit. I'm very happy to be away from that. A lot of people look at my success if you want to call it that, I don't call it success I call it hell. If you look at the numbers and shit and how many records I sold and the music awards that I got, people think I live this famous lifestyle of being famous and I don't know what the fuck they got of me but it is the wrong image. Honestly I've never been able to enjoy any of my success, if that's what you want to label it, at all, it's been fucking hell. Right now I'm enjoying it after all those years. I wish I would have started out like this from the beginning. It's really fucked up how my whole thing came about because I played for three years, I signed with this label out of Atlanta called Ichiban Records, I played opening for an all black audience. I opened for ICE T, STETSOSONIC, EPMD, PUBLIC ENEMY I did the Stop the Violence Tour. For three years, I thought this is where I'm gonna be for the rest of my life. This is what I made the "To the Extreme" record for, this audience. And when it came to down to signing with a major label I had two deals on the table. I had one for thirty grand to sign with Def Jam a very credible. (I tell him of course that Rick Rubin rules!!! -Jeff) ***And Hank Shockney was gonna produce the record, which is PUBLIC ENEMY they were gonna be on the record which would have given me fucking shit loads of credibility forever. Or take a million five to take my record to sign with SBK and crossover to the pop market. So I was like, "fuck", I was three car payments behind on my 5.0 at that point, I was living with three other guys in an apartment I couldn't pay my share of the rent. A million five or thirty grand, uh yeah. So I took the money, which was the wrong thing to do, I sold out.***

MR: You still think so?

VI: Absolutely!

MR: You must have enjoyed your wealth a little.

VI: No way. And you know why, from 1991 to 1994 I was heavily on drugs because what happened from that was, yes the money was huge tons of money flowing in like fucking a faucet left on just flowing in. I was riding it out, so what happened was overnight my crowd went from that crowd I was just telling you to huge arenas just selling them out everywhere. Twelve-year-olds with braces like that overnight, I was like what the fuck where did my crowd go, you know what I'm saying. And I'm still performing the same fucking record the same fucking music but to a completely different crowd. So what happened out of that was I got turned into a novelty act. A fucking teenybopper novelty act which was not what I intended not what I wanted. And it was too late at that point, we were selling too many records. Everything it was just so huge it was just way too late to turn anything around. So from '91-'94, being a novelty act leads to a lot of criticism and everything. And everything just contradicts everything I was doing. I was put into this very uncomfortable position to be a role model for these kids, when I'm a dropout, I sold drugs fucking coming up. How the fuck can I be put in this position?! It was very uncomfortable for me I told everyone don't look at me like a fucking role model don't f ollow my patterns. If you want to be like me fucking do it your own way don't go through what I been through.



MR: It always seems that it starts off some criticism. I was telling her (Maria) earlier it's like KISS, they were real big then people lost interest then all of a sudden it's like you're gay if you like KISS. And then when they put they're make-up on again everybody is like, "I always loved them".

VI: That's exactly like it is for me now. The same people that embraced it coming up are the same people who turned on it are the same people who are coming back out. But you know what I don't know if it's the same people coming back out cause like I said it's more of a body-piercing tattooed crowd but maybe that crowd grew up. Like you said there are younger kids here and there's some places I play where for the most part they're older and then I play a college town you get the college crowd will come out. It's a very broad fan base not any particular one but the one that I'm creating is the under ground, KORN, Heavy Metal crowd.

MR: Yeah, Metal Rules!

VI: That's the one I'm catering to because I'm here to tell you that I'm very appreciative of my fans and I'm going to cater to the ones that appreciate what I'm doing and not the ones who don't. So as far as you mentioning in the beginning that I've had bad press, well I completely think this is a complete success compared to what I've had in the past. Because maybe five percent of the shit I read, I don't know maybe you're just looking at what you've read around this city or New York or something but for the West Coast...

MR: No, I'm not talking about bad press for this album. I was talking about in the past.

VI: Oh right.

MR: No, I'm talking about all the crap that went on before. From what I've read recently it starts off as "we thought this was a joke but no, this kicks ass!"

VI: That's exactly what I'm doing now trying to jump over that hurdle for people to accept what I'm doing now is serious. Because the novelty act you never can accept it seriously. And they accepted it serious in the beginning but then it was turned into that. You know how N'SYNC and the BACKSTREET BOYS

were created to be novelty acts I was never designed to be that I was turned into that shit. Why? Because of maybe my complexion, because I'm doing Rap music whatever. It crossed into a Pop market, which I never even listened to Pop music. So, it was very uncomfortable, it led to drugs, I had to escape from reality because of what you're saying about bad press. I seen Jim Carrey do skits on me I seen all kinds of fucked up shit and it hurt it hurt me bad.

MR: Did you ever find it amusing at all?

VI: Now, yeah. Then, no way man, my music is serious to me this is my diary. I fucking put my heart into that shit and they're decrediting me and making jokes about me and shit. I didn't come into this fucking... You can't pay me enough to even take my credibility away like that. So what happened was I sold out which is exactly what happened to me they took my credibility away. Which led to a drug phase, I had to use drugs to escape from reality cause every time I would come back into reality I would see that shit and the only way I could have fun was drugs. So I was doing heroin, blow, ecstasy on a fucking daily basis. Drunk as hell all the time partying my ass off. Tried to commit suicide in 1994, millions of dollars in the bank, million dollar boat in the backyard, Porsches in the garage like twenty cars in the garage. Anything material wise you could ever want, and that's why what you were saying a minute ago about having a lot of money and I was like, "So"? Because I had plenty of money and here I am totally unhappy wantin' to die.

MR: Money can't buy happiness.

VI: At all and I didn't know that and I thought it was all about money coming up and I think anybody in my shoes would have taken the same path I took. A million five or thirty grand because at nineteen that's all it was about to me but later in life I found out it wasn't. Maybe it was a learning experience for me whatever but I didn't succeed with the attempt, which is a trip because I fucking loaded myself up that night purposefully, heavily. It was a trip that I made it through blood coming out of my nose I mean it was ugly friends dumping buckets of cold water on me trying to keep me alive. I was convulsing and shit puking everywhere just dry heaving, turning white as a sheet, holy fuck! Anyway I woke up the next day felt like I was given a second chance.

MR: You got the leaf tattoo. (To go with turning over a New leaf.)

VI: Yeah, I see you read the bio.

MR: I pay attention.

VI: Basically from that point on I had to eliminate that whole crowd I was running with. Cause that's the crowd I grew up with, it was all my friends and shit and they were still doing the drugs and shit. They didn't want to quit with me so all of a sudden I'm alone on the planet. Depressed out of my fucking mind so what did I do? I went to a shrink I got on some antidepressants and he found I had this thing called ADD, attention deficit disorder. Which really doesn't help me at all as far as I am concerned, maybe it does cause a lot people think that it fuels me and drives me and gives you that extra boost to do whatever you dream of or whatever. But me I look at it like a disease and it mentally fucks me up so I have a drug called aderill that I'm taking on top of the antidepressants it helps me focus on every thing and after some time I fucking pulled through it. And thank God I did cause I can look at my little daughter right now and I almost cry going, God man if I would have succeeded then this beautiful little girl wouldn't be here right now. The love of my life, the best thing that ever fucking happened to me. So I guess I had some people praying for me and I guess there is a God man because no book ever taught me that. And I'm not gonna believe what generation after generation brings down. I believe it's all been manipulated. All I know is what's in my heart man, I had an experience that can't just be a coincidence in my heart so at that point I started believing in God. And now since I've done that I've been blessed tremendously not just musically but like I said personally at home. I mean I have a wife and a kid now and my depression is gone. It's hard to understand how happy I am now just by listening to my record but it's fucking great, it feels fucking great. And to see so many people on top of that being blessed with the music now. There's a fucking huge buzz going on right now and like I said so many people coming out to embrace it, it's just a blessing man. I'm very blessed over and over. I feel fucking great now. The only thing is I have a bunch of issues in my brain that I've been through still that I want to let out and I did this record in a month and half with Ross. We recorded it in the Indigo Ranch where KORN did theirs, LIMP BIZKIT and all these bands. Basically we had caterers and everything and we stayed up on this mountain in Malibu it's way at the top of this mountain didn't come down for a month and a half we took a month and a half and got the album done from start to finish. It was just so good, the buzz, the vibe was so great the musicians that worked on the record were so into it and so incredible. We all really, really got to know each other like sitting around a camp fire smoking a joint talking about your inner feelings and shit you wouldn't talk about with the average person on a daily basis. (Except maybe to me because I rule! -Jeff) *Plus meeting Ross and finding a person with such a huge heart like him that really is listening to your problems and shit. Cause most people you try to tell them that shit about dark things that happened in your life they'll put everybody in a bad mood and you can just see the whole mood of everyone just going down and they just want to walk away and hear something happy. Well Ross wants to hear that shit because he cares and he's got such a huge heart which is really rare to run into people like that these days. From my shoes I don't see many people like that at all I see a bunch of fake fucks out there with two faces all day. So I opened up to the man, not music wise or anything friendship wise and he told me you need to put this on the record man I said, "No, no dude this is from me to you I don't want the world to know this". He said, "man you need to let it out of you", I said, "no people are gonna judge me upon this shit and I don't want people to fucking judge me on this shit". He says man you're gonna be free if you do it. So he had a way of capturing this emotional this real emotional rare moment on tape from me. It was so true that I was so free afterwards it was like total therapy music was the outlet it wasn't gonna happen anywhere else.*

MR: The album seems so sincere I mean when I listen to it, personally I wasn't into what you were before. I mean I'm a Metalhead and it wasn't my thing and they sent me that, I got it from your label and I opened it up and said, "What's this". I was totally shocked when I saw it and I put it on and said, "oh this kicks ass" and that's when I contacted...It was about the music I said it doesn't matter. People are going to be like why did you interview VANILLA ICE and I'm gonna be like, "I don't give a fuck this is my magazine I'm gonna do whatever the fuck I want". I

interviewed STRYPER last issue people gave me shit about that. Its what I like, you know what I mean?

VI: It's cool everyone should have their own opinion and stop trying to be this hipper person. You should follow what you think is cool and everyone should base their opinion on that. Everybody has their own opinion, HUEY LEWIS AND THE

NEWS *and shit I never fucking liked it. They sucked.*

MR: Well *Sports* is a good record.

VI: I hate people like that. I've got some shit that I don't like but I don't run around going, "that sucks and you should think it sucks too". Because I let the people who like it like it. It's just irritating, just sit back and enjoy it don't make such a big issue about such things. So, anyway he caught this moment on tape and well seeing as we did it in a month and a half and I'm ready to make this other record so bad because I feel I've only scratched the surface on the all shit I need to get out of me. And at the end of the record is when it really started to come together for me, we did "Scars", on there which is very personal to me it deals with being abused and shit and my mother and how she got abused by her father and shit. They say you're supposed to forgive and forget I find it totally impossible under today's rules and shit. Because there's a level you can forgive and forget certain things, small little things that doesn't really impact your life as such a big deal. But when you see your mother and you see the scars across her neck and you see the scars under her fucking arms, where she had her ribs removed, she had a tracheotomy here you can see that and every time you look at her you see it, you can't forget it. So you can't forget it, you can't forgive it, its impossible so that book the Bible, they call it, is totally impossible to fucking go by. Because that to me, I can't do it. It's impossible and I don't think anybody can. If somebody kills your daughter you can't forget it that's a level ten. Certain shit you can this shit you can't. Anyway "Scars" is basically about that part of my life. And "ADD" all these songs started to come together in the end those were the last few songs we did. We really didn't know what we were going to come up with in the beginning. Ross and I were just like let's get together and do this, whatever we come up with we come up with. We had no idea the record was gonna come out as dark as it did. He had no idea of all the demons that I had in me or anything.

MR: That's really heavy.

VI: Yeah, it wasn't intended to be. It wasn't intended to be played on radio it wasn't intended to be to any crowd. None of that shit was in our mind. You know radio has these limitations and shit. There's a lot of bands out there that will make their record around those limitations. Like three, three and a half minutes, they won't play a song that's over three and a half minutes. They won't play any curse words, won't play any songs that advocate the use of marijuana, da da dah.

MR: So that leaves out most of your album.

VI: That's exactly what I'm saying, I made it for me. I made this fucking record for me, this is my diary it's gonna please me personally. I'm also a person who doesn't judge the success of a record by how many records it sells and most people, for the majority do. You know its all about where they're at on the charts, how many albums they sold this week or that week or this or that. I don't give a fuck about that shit I could careless. Because if you did that, that means that you have to say that N'SYNC is better than fucking PEARL JAM (That would be tough call for me- Angus) *or some shit. There's no way in hell you could convince me of that cause their record sales are greater, there's no way man it doesn't mean it's a better album.*

MR: It's better marketing.

VI: Whatever the reason. I just don't judge it upon what it sells; you know what I'm saying? Judge it upon what it does to you personally that you can relate to that moment caught on tape. That's what its all about man, I'm keeping it as fucking real as I can. Unfortunately I have this stigma that's still attached to me so when you think of VANILLA ICE you think of that old Poppy shit. Like I said I'm over that hurdle now and people are starting to lend me an ear again and shit and not just brush it off and joke about it. They see I'm trying to keep it as real as I possibly can but the reason that I didn't change my name is because I think fuck the stigma, fuck what you've heard, fuck VANILLA ICE for all I give a shit cause its not about a name it's a label who gives a fuck. I'm not running from anything hiding from anything its not about the fucking name its about the music. Sit back and listen to the music.

MR: Do you miss dancing though?

VI: No.

MR: Cause that's one of things I used to like about you, was watching you dance.

VI: I used to be that kind of guy, and did this whole Hip Hop kind of thing. I owe all that to that, break dancing but now I've developed more about the music more about the personal side of the music and that's what it should really be about you shouldn't buy the record because I'm a good dancer. Even though a lot of people did because that was the video. The old saying goes video killed the radio star. I mean the life I lived before is completely different than the one I have now.

MR: Looking back on that song, I'm sure you saw your VH-1 special, what did you think of that?

VI: Me personally, I didn't know what to think I didn't know how it was gonna be perceived by everybody else until I just see their reaction and just hear about it.

MR: But what did you personally think?

VI: It was very emotional for me. I was just in tears the whole time. I just saw my life flash before me, it just pissed me off because they promised me they were gonna give me the tape before they edited it and they didn't so there were some inaccuracies there.

MR: Do you want to set the record straight for that?

VI: Not really because I don't want...I got a problem with...I shouldn't even say anything about it right now.

MR: I don't know how they do it cause they go... I interviewed GWAR last week, are you familiar with GWAR?

VI: Yeah sure.

MR: Yeah we interviewed them and they were asked to do one of them (Jeff is slightly mistaken here GWAR was asked to a segment for "Where are They Now" not "Behind the Music"-Angus). And I just wondered if they come up to you and say we want to make a special about you is that all right. They have to ask you right?

VI: Most of the stuff in there is true. Yeah you're right. I turned them down like fifty times. They were offering me money and shit and I'm not one of these artists that did blow all his money. Fortunately I made good investments.

MR: That was another question I had for you.

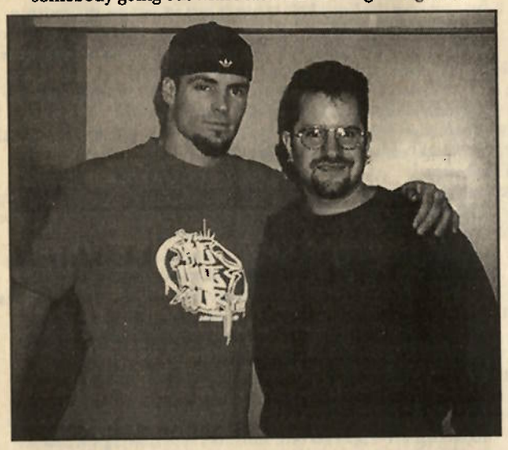
VI: I actually have more money than I started with. So it's not a financial issue with me. Its funny because not only did I turn down this VH-1 special over and over and over again but the President of VH-1 called my house, the President of MTV said we'll do this for you, we'll do that for you, we'll pay. I said, "man get out of my face I don't want to do it". I don't care I'm sick of hearing that shit. I don't want to see or hear or remind myself of any of that old shit. It almost killed me, I'm beyond that personally. So, basically they told me that they would give me final editing and shit and they didn't so I'm very pissed off about that.

MR: I thought you might want to straighten it out...

VI: No.

MR: I don't edit. I'll put it in there exactly you have my word on it. I'll give you my home phone number you can call me up and yell at me if its not there.

VI: Right but, I don't want to burn any bridges.
MR: Right, that's cool.
VI: The reason why is I want to sit back and see what the reaction of everybody is. That is disturbing to me as well. But you know its more than that. What I'm saying is I want to wait and see what the response is that I get from everybody is that everybody likes it.
MR: I liked it.
VI: So, for the most part the story is true a lot of the dates are wrong and some of the shit is wrong.
MR: How old are you?
VI: I'm thirty.
MR: On that it says you were born in '67.
VI: '68.
MR: Did they say '68 on the special?
VI: No, they said '67 on the special.
MR: OK because I was born in '67 so that's why I thought that was weird. And looking through there was other things. I brought this to show you so you would know. Like this said you were 16 when "Ice Ice Baby" came out and this other one says twenty-five.
VI: I recorded "Ice Ice Baby" when I was sixteen years old. Remember I told you I was on the label Ichibon Records.
MR: OK that was before that.
VI: That was for three years. I was nineteen when everybody picked up on "To the Extreme". "To the Extreme" was not my first record, "Hope" was my first record.
MR: OK.
VI: So nobody really saw it, it sold like forty thousand records in three years.
MR: Just so I know what was going on, because I'm like, "how old is this guy"?
VI: I recorded "Ice Ice Baby" when I was sixteen.
MR: So you are thirty. You were born October 30th 1968.
VI: October 31st.
MR: I have some more questions about your VH-1 special. One thing that struck me as weird was when they brought up Madonna's name you went "Ewwww." Now I just couldn't ever imagine somebody going out with Madonna and regretting that.



VI: A lot of people don't understand why I regret that.
MR: She was nasty?
VI: Man, I didn't say she's nasty cause I'm not here to slander. Anybody in the public eye. I'm not that type of guy.
MR: You weren't into her.
VI: Yeah. One thing is I regret it cause I was into her cause I went out with her so there was something there for a while. But when I found out what she had done to me. She didn't ask me for per mission to release this big Sex book. I just went over her house one time and she just started taking her clothes off and started taking pictures and shit. The next thing I know I see this hard copy big Sex book thing. Slutty book, you know, and I see all these other people in there she's with and I'm like, "oh my God"!
MR: Do you think you were used to do that book?
VI: Totally. She just put me in her slutty package and I just didn't want to be part of it. I'm just not that type of a person I'm a pretty clean kind of a person and a lot of people think that I'm a slut or something because I do get opportunities every night, I think you know that, any entertainer does. And I turn them down all the time.
MR: Have you dated other famous girls?
VI: Yeah.
MR: Anybody I would know?
VI: Naomi Campbell.
MR: Yeah.
VI: Short very short.
Maria: She was in your movie wasn't she?
VI: Yeah.
MR: Very good honey.
VI: Oh uh...(starts Lauging)
MR: Who is it that's making you laugh...
VI: Downtown Julie Brown.
MR: Yeah. Did that accent get on your nerves?
VI: It turned me on actually. Sexy. Her attitude is what turned me off. But I'm glad I never married another entertainer person or anything. Maybe that's not the right thing to say but you know I've met lots of girls and none of them really catch my eye. When I'm talking to this one girl, the one I married, first of all I talked to a lot of chicks and try to find out who they are to see if I'm...
MR: Where did you meet your wife at?
VI: My house at a party on the fourth of July.
MR: So I guess she knew who you were, that was the other part of the question.
VI: Yeah, she knew who I was. But she didn't care really she wanted to be a housewife that's what she told me and I thought she was joking. I never heard a girl say I want to be a housewife. What do you want to do in life? Oh I want to be a stripper I wanna be an actress or something or I'm gonna go do this, I'm wanna be a lawyer or I want to go to school and do this. It's all dreams there's nothing wrong with that.
MR: I think Maria wants to be a housewife.
Maria: Uh no.
VI: There's nothing wrong with that but to a guy that wants to get married he don't want to meet somebody... You know what I'm saying I'm ready to settle down and really have someone that's sincere and that's what I've found so it's great.
MR: When you were confronted in '91 about the difference about "Under Pressure" and your song, you said there was a little itty bitty difference did you really believe that?
VI: No man. Didn't you see me laughing then?
MR: That's what I'm saying. You know it's the same song?
VI: Oh, of course. That's another thing that was inaccurate in that VH-1 special. I'll dispute this part. They said that Earthquake, which was my DJ at the time who was programming the drum machine for me, that he is the one who came up with all the tracks and I just wrote the lyrics.
MR: Right.
VI: Bullshit. I brought that fucking David Bowie record to him and go, "hey sample this". Ding ding ding ti di ding ding (the riff from "Under Pressure"). ***And all he did was put a break beat into it. And I put the bass line in and played it.*** (He hums the bass line to "Ice Ice Baby" at this point.)
MR: And I'm watching this going, "he's not really doing this".
VI: I was laughing my ass off. You know what it was back then man, it was during the downfall I would say and MTV was editing my shit and they fucking edited that one little section like I was serious or something. But if you would have listened to the whole thing before it and after it, it was all a joke I was laughing my ass off about it. If you look at my face you'll see it.
MR: That's what I'm saying, I'm laughing going, "is he serious"?
VI: Fuck no.
MR: Yeah, it's just that itty bitty little difference there's that little ting in it. I'm like, "what is he talking about"? (He laughs hysterically!) All right now we get to the funny questions we do some silly questions in the magazine. Actually my wife came up with this question.
Maria: Oh don't.

MR: If you connected all your scars would it form a bunny rabbit? (This is in refernce to the scars he got from being stabbed but he tried to read more into it than that.)
VI: I don't get it.
Maria: Like connect the dots.
MR: Nevermind.
VI: Is it over my head? Way over my head...
MR: What she is saying is if connected all your scars back to back would it form a bunny rabbit? Nevermind.
VI: Why?
Maria: With Jeff's magazine he tries to write silly questions to try and lighten up the interview a little bit. But he always asks me for input so I tried, it was a beat try, but I tried.
MR: How about her other one, she said you were a puppet for the record company would you think you were like Howdy Doody or Kukla, Fran and Ollie?
VI: (Laughs) ***I don't even know the two.***
MR: Howdy Doody you know though.
VI: No.
MR: The little freckled puppet from the fifties.
VI: I don't know I wasn't around in the fifties.(We both laugh while Maria whines in the background about not asking her for any input anymore. I don't care, I thought her questions were funny or else I wouldn't have asked them.)
MR: This one is mine I'll take credit for this one. You know those big baggy pants you had?
VI: Yeah.
MR: If you cut the crotch out of them did you ever think of making Dusty Rain (his daughter) like a tent or a like a little tunnel to crawl through? You had one of them when you were a kid right?
VI: Oh yeah. We'd put them over the chairs and...
MR: Yeah. What do you think of that?
VI: I don't even think about the baggy fucking pants I know they were corny, my man but (Laughs all around).
MR: You wore 'em though man.(As I say this I pat him on the back. We are sitting next to each other during this interview and Vanilla has this really friendly way of talking where he touches you constantly. Not in a gay way, just friendly.I thought I would bond with him a bit since he doesn't really enjoy this specific line of questions but I was going to ask them anyway.)
VI: Oh no I wore them, I played the whole role and played it out.
Maria: The way, you moved on stage you had to be comfortable.
VI: Well it was in at the time. Baggy pants were the thing at the time and I was going with it. Plus my record company had every thing staged and they had that shit lined up for me they had all the suits, the whole image staged I'm not blaming anyone here, don't get the wrong picture here, it was my option to take the million five or the thirty g's so I take the blame.
MR: Let's see if we have any more fun questions we'll get them all out of the way at one time.
VI: (Laughs)
MR: When you wore those pants and you got a boner were you able to tell? Or was that pretty covered up?
VI: Come on man. Save me from the corny shit.
MR: OK. Let's see what else we got. How did it feel to get interviewed in the most important Metal magazine in the universe?
VI: (Laughs and a big smile comes across his face.)***It was great. That's where I want to fucking be I mean Metal does rule. No shit that's all I listen to now, I'm not turning my back on Hip Hop or anything but to honest with you I don't know the last time I bought a Hip Hop record its been years. Because personally it's not how it used to be, I don't know if you used to into Hip Hop at all but.***
MR: ICE CUBE. (Actually, I went through a slight phase while I worked in an Urban mall but it's because it was forced down my throat and I got used to it. Honest....uhhhhh...)
VI: OK. You had ICE CUBE back in the day you had PUBLIC ENEMY, DAS EFX and you had all these bands that had their own style nobody sounded like them, they were them. Then you got all these fucking groups that are still doing the same shit I did ten years ago, I'm not gonna mention any names I think everybody knows who we're talking about. Take old songs and remake them and release them. Another sample, another break beat record. How many times am I gonna hear another fucking break beat? I don't know it is starting to sound the same to me.
MR: I always wondered why they can't just write new songs.
VI: And they're all rapping about the same shit now like...
MR: Every time I hear a song and somebody says it's a great song I'm like they're just talking over an old song, somebody else's song.
VI: Exactly, I'm just not into it any more. I'm not turning my back on it I know it's where I came from I love the old shit I just can't get into the new shit. I like BUSTA RHYMES a little bit but not enough to go buy his record.
MR: He's got cool hair.
VI:(LAUGHS) ***Not enough to buy the new record. Its all about the video and records sales. If you go by MTV they say it's a Hip Hop nation so basically that's where all the record sales are going, so that's why they're saying that. I don't believe it I disagree one hundred percent but if you ask me it's a Metal Nation and that's the way it should be.***

MR: You're right.
VI: Metal Nation doesn't mean let's compete against the record sales of Hip Hop. Fuck that, it's a Metal Nation because it's under ground and it's real. It's real is the key word parenthesis it's real. And that's what I've really learned over the years to appreciate about music the people who do it for real. Do it for the music not for the video not buy the record because he dances good or look good. Who gives a fuck? Fuck the video, fuck the image, anti all of that shit let it go to the music that's what this is music it's not fucking movies or books it's music. Let it revolve around the music.
MR: I think that's all I have unless you have any honey? No Kukla Fran or Ollie?
Maria: Uh no. Don't ever ask me for any input.
(Laughs all around)
MR: She does want you to sign her tape ("To The Extreme")
VI: I'm suprised, You're married to the Metal guy and you got the old shit. That's cool though. It does have Rock influence though, you got your DAVID BOWIE and QUEEN thing and some other Rock shit.
Maria: I remember my 1st car and I got a tape deck in and that was the only tape I had in my car and I would play it over and over. (Obviously very excited. Calm down honey, you came with me remember?)
VI: Killer.
MR:She never wants to come to shows with me. Consider yourself honored.
VI: Cool. You know what I was going to say was remember when you asked earlier If I was able to laugh at it now? It hurt me back then, all the shit. It hurt bad, to the point where it almost killed me! Now, I look at it completely different, whether positive or negative, I see what a HUGE impact I've had.
MR: You were humongous.
VI: Humongous.I laugh at it now. Little 'ol me. What a tremendous impact.Big enough to leave an impression on people whether positive or negative. To put me in Austin Powers frozen in a

block of Ice, for Jim Carrey to do a skit on me, for Kevin Bacon to do a skit on me. They feel like they have to mention it because it was so huge that they had to shut it down.Being that there audience is listening to them, they have to shut it down.

MR: Good or bad, everybody knows who Vanilla Ice is. It's a household name like Cheerios. Well, maybe not Cheerios...(What the hell am I talking about?)

VI: True, but it doesn't give me any personal gratification.I could care less about fame. I don't give a fuck about it.I'm not a Rock Star where you have to clear a path for me. I walk right through the crowd and shake everybody's hands. Keeping it real.I hate bands that don't do that.There's a big misconception of who I am because if you don't know me and just listen to my music you would think I'm some kind of boasting idiot. Stuck up asshole or something.

MR: You turned out better than I expected. I had these questions written down and I was afraid you might want to kick my ass or something.(He laughs.) I know what you mean though because you sat down and didn't know what to expect. Is this guy going to trash me or be cool? One more goofy request for you. Can you cut a message for the *Metal Rules!* answering machine?

VI:Sure. (He didn't need time to think. He got this very cool message out.)

The Answering Machine Message...

VI: Yo, you've reached the office of Metal Rules! And check it out this is the Ice Man coming at you and Metal does rule. Leave a message.

MR: Can we take a picture where we're pretending to dance?

VI: No. I'm sorry, I can't put myself into that mouse trap. Just give me a handshake man! Keeping it real.I don't pose anymore or do any of that shit

MR: I just think it would look so weird with me doing it.

VI: It's just I'm not like that anymore. I'm sorry.

MR: No problem man. You don't have to apologize. I appreciate you taking this hour with me.

VI: No problem man.

MR: Sorry, to embarass you with the stupid questions.

VI: It's just....no problem.

MR: Thanks for the time, enjoy the gifts and go eat.

Maria: Enjoy your cheesesteak.

VI:Hell yeh, they have them in Florida but not like here.

Maria: Nothing beats a Philly cheesesteak.

MR: I'll get some cool concert photos.

VI: Cool man, thanks alot and enjoy the show. Put your earplugs in, we're loud as fuck.

There you have it. True to his word they were loud as fuck and they put on killer show. It's apparent that Vanilla Ice whether he's doing Rap or Metal is a presence on stage. The crowd loves him and true to his word again he came out at the end of the show to sign autographs. Everybody deserves a 2nd chance....It's cool that he's getting one. Go check out the New record *Hard To Swallow* and catch him on tour. You'll be suprisingly pleased.

GWAR Interview continued from page 4

MR:You've reached the office of *Metal Rules!* and then do something GWAR like.

Oderus: OK. "Hey Shithead! You've reached the office of Metal Rules! This is Oderus, I've killed the staff and burnt the building down. This is over. Don't bother leaving a message."

MR:That was Beautiful. Thank you so much.

Oderus:You're so welcome.See you at the Troc!

MR:You bet!

Oderus: Later..

MR:later.

So what do you think kids? Jeremy did damn fine job didn't he? Even if Oderus probably thought that he was being interviewed by Peter Brady during the puberty episode. Angus helped write these questions and you have to admit he did a wonderful job during the interview with his Legendary "Uhh..." Let's have a round of applause for the boys!!

Sludge! Interview continued from page 37

back to sleep Dan.-Jeff)

MR: How do you feel about Roberto Beninis incredible win at the Oscars?

Dave: Who the fuck is that?

Jim: Words can not describe.

Dan: What are you saying? (Who woke him up?-Jeff)

MR: Who is your favorite Smurf and why?

Jim: Smurfette was my favorite one with the blue-blusting muffin. Bet it doesn't taste like chicken. (It does...I mean..Move over Dan, I'm going to sleep too.-Jeff)

Dave: Gargamel. He really isn't a smurf though. That guy is as evil as I want to be in my life. Doesn't give 2 shits about who the hell anybody is.

MR: Do you think Gwyneth Paltrow is Hot or a skanky skinny little Ho like I believe?

Dave: Who the fuck is that? If she's good looking and has a nice set of hooters, I'm in for her.

Dan: Two words. Blow Pig!

Jim: Gwyneth Paltrow is the next methamphetamine poster child. Her stomach muscles naw at her backbone for nutrition.

MR: Tell us your favorite crazy concert story.

Jim: I had sex on a see-through cat walk grid at the Spectrum, 20 thousand GRATEFUL DEAD fans cheering me on. (This must have been an acid trip-Jeff) ***I'm still not sure where the projectiles went.*** (Yugoslavia.-Jeff)

Dan: Tori Amos rules. (Man, now he's talking in his sleep.-Jeff)

MR: When you awake from fainting with excitement please explain how much being in *Metal Rules! Magazine* means to you.

Dave: God damn Jeff. What a question. Everytime I think about it I suddenly shit myself and then have to shit myself again. DAMN EXLAX!

Dan: More than words can say.

Jim: Can't answer, the plate in my head just shifted

MR: Any last words to the kids and tell us about all the crap you got for sale?

Jim: Kids, believe in yourself and follow your intuition...It's God leading you along your path...(Thanks Preacher!-Jeff)

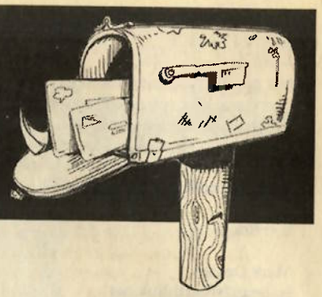
Dave: OK little kids. Now Dave is going to tell you how to order your very own merchandise from your favorite band in the whole wide world. Here we go. Send lots of money to my address. Here's the price list...

- Self Released/Titled 7 Inch Vinyl (only 300 pressed on green plastic) WHAT A TREAT! - $5ppd US / $6 Else Where
- Alone & Twisted Demo '98 - $4ppd US / $5 Else Where
- New Jersey Hatecore Demo '97 - $4ppd US / $5 Else Where
- 2 Sided Shirts - $13.00ppd US / $17ppd Else Where
- Baseball Hats - $10ppd US / $12ppd Else Where

Now here's the address to send your well hidden cash or postal money order payable to Dave Orkin. NO CHECKS!

SLUDGE!
c/o Dave Orkin
1932 Cologne Ave Apt # C - 9
Mays Landing, NJ 08330 - USA
EMAIL: sludge98@bellatlantic.net
WEB SITE: Address: http://members.bellatlantic.net/sludge98

Mail Call



Believe it or not kids we've got mail! Here are some excerpts from our favorites. Feel free to write to Metal Jeff himself at:
metaljef@yahoo.com

Jeff

WHOO HOO! Damn, I love what you do! The Colorado Metal scene is lacking this very thing. I mean, we have the local rags that everyone has but you take it to the next level. Right on!
Thanks again,

Woody
Silencer
WSebastian@procard.com
www.chedsey.com/silencer

Thanks Woody. Keep readin' Metal Rules! It is getting bigger and bigger with each issue...which means my job gets harder and harder...ugh! -Jeremy

Hi Jeff,

Just finished reading #1 & 2 of *Metal Rules!* It's pretty good stuff! The second issue is a little different than the first in a few ways. I thought the first issue was funnier but the second one was definitely better written. I liked the interviews and personal stories. The reviews are pretty good, too. The only thing is that I personally would prefer less demo stuff and more major label stuff, but you seem to cover both adequately. I like the email section, too. ;-) Some of those guys are real jerks, aren't they? Those washed-up, has-been losers have no right to be arrogant! I don't think WARRANT can expect to get a gold record award with their next release, hahaha! Some suggestions I have for future issues (nothing major, just some ideas I had :) maybe including one page per issue about a classic metal album like "Killers" or "Reign In Blood" or something like that. Also, you may want to go beyond just metal and put some comic book stuff and horror movie reviews in it. I used to be really into comic books back in the day, not anymore, though. :-(You see, Metal is a lifestyle. People who like metal also like comic books, horror movies, Howard Stern, hats that say "Fuck You," and T-shirts that say "My dick smells like Chapstick (TM)." *(Editor's note: This quote is from a song by Emily's Toybox. Great band to see in the Pennsylvannia/Jersey area)* (I shit you not, I actually saw a kid wearing that one.) I know that stuff has nothing to do with heavy metal, but I think it would be fun to read!...

C-ya,
Matt
ntulini@voicenet.com>

Dear Mattward,
We're happy as little school girls to hear that you bought and liked issues #1 & #2. To date the "At War With Warrant" has been the favorite of all the savage emails. Mr. Turner was a good sport. As for your suggestions we'll keep them in mind. We tend to review more smaller label albums and demos to give these people a better chance of getting known. It's easy for big label companies to get their bands press. There's a lot of good bands out there that don't have the promotional resources to draw on. So, we try to give them a helping hand...and that's one to grow on...I think I'm gonna be sick...
-Jeremy

Hey Jeff!

Jim here from *Corrosion `Zine.* I just got your `zine in the mail yesterday. Just read that Steve Vai int...damn man, that's a beautiful interview! You know how nervous I'd be if I talked to Steve Vai on the phone? What I really liked was how you're obviously so excited to be talking to him, you can actually feel that just by reading the words. Just a really cool interview...I understand completely what you were saying about the duel from "Crossroads". That's probably one of my favourite things that Steve's done as well. Just the whole trade-off idea is so cool. I didn't know that Steve did all the music for that....

Jim
corros@simcoe.igs.net

Hey Jim,
Are you kidding? Jeff was extremely nervous when he interviewed Steve Vai. When he heard the words, "Hey, this is Steve Vai" he almost pooped himself! We love to hear good things about the mag. It makes us all warm and fuzzy inside. Check out Jim's zine called Corrosion `Zine. -Jeremy

Jeff,

Got done reading your issue 4 last night! AWESOME JOB!!!!!! Congrats and good luck to you and your wife too! Sounds like your bachelor party was a blast...ha, ha!!!!!!! I will be honest and say that when I saw that you had an interview with Michael Sweet I said to myself, "Oh No!", but you know what...I did enjoy the interview. Michael sounds like a nice dude! Again, I just want to say I enjoyed the issue!

Thanks,
Berzerker Dan
Berzerker Fanzine
berzerkr@azonline.com

My love for you is like berzerker...oh sorry, CLERKS flashback. A lot of people were surprised that we interviewed Michael Sweet. He is a really nice guy. We were particularly proud of issue 4. We added more pages, went to newsprint and had one of the coolest covers ever. Thanks for the praises. Contact Dan to get a hold of Berzerker Fanzine. -Jeremy

Jeff,

...I liked your mag. The STRYPER interview was a riot. Maybe we could re-press that in our mag eventually?...

THE BLASPHEMER magazine
blasphemer1@yahoo.com

Thanks I like the name of your mag. It sounds so evil. So evil in fact that it make my asshole pucker. Reprint the STRYPER interview hmmm... -Jeremy

JEFFFFFFFFF!!!!!

Just got the mags and the shirt! All I can say is, brother, you kick some major ass! Very refreshing to see a magazine of this flavor and content out there. You've inspired me.

Hope all is well out there and I look forward to seeing the next ish! Keep in touch and TAKE CARE!!!!

You Rock!

Mark DeVito
isabeau2@earthlink.net

MARRRRRRRRKKK!!!!!
Ah, now that I have your attention. I'm tickled that we've inspired you...what exactly did we inspire you to do? Metal Rules! inspired me as well...it inspired me to cry myself to sleep at night. Well, keep readin' Metal Rules! for more inspiration and don't tug on Superman's cape.-Jeremy

Jeff,
What's new? Thanks for the zine. Good job. I actually might go as far and call it original. I can't wait to see the "Our first child" Special Issue, haha. Other than that, I almost puked when I saw your Michael Sweet interview. I admire your guts for putting that in, but I don't think I'll ever understand how someone could actually have liked all that pussy metal shit when it came out. Speaking of pussies, the chicks are great. Later.

Mathias Kietzmann / X-RATED RECORDS
http://xrr.musicpage.com

So you puke everytime you see something about Michael Sweet, huh? There's something about him that gets you sooo worked up that it forces your body to throw your digestive function in reverse, causing you to expell the entire contents of your stomach. This leads me to believe that you have a thing for him...which is fine denial is the first step... -Jeremy

...and now a review of Metal Rules #1 from Kai of United Forces Zine, Magazine whatever the fuck it is...(German Metal Mag -Jeff)

Metal rules #1

Very great name for a fanzine. But the reading of this fanzine strikes me a bit. The fault to this is perhaps that there are not enough contacts (now in the beginning) to the metal scene but it's the attitude that matters. There are two interviews in it: Kane Roberts and Gene Allen and Rich Brooks (Ex-musicians of Alice Cooper, Lizzy Borden and so on are talking about their new activities-very interesting) Further there are pics on every page from the author, Jeff (with a hat in the shower, when he was young, in his bed and Jeff's car is printed with half a page). That's not why you are writing a Metal mag, my friend. Further there are reviews but they could be more critical. (Everything is very very good, also Jugulator (Priest) and Annihilator "Remains" (shit)) If the issue number two is a bit more "normal" it will be a good thing.

Thanks Kai. We have a more "normal" zine look now check it out. You'll be surprised my friend. -Jeremy

That's it for the letters kiddies. Keep writin' we'll print it...maybe...okay we'll at least pass it around the office and make fun of you. What more could you ask for? -Jeremy

CORRECTION!!!

Once in a while we screw up...okay maybe more than once and a while...FINE every issue has at least one mistake!! I admit it! Happy now! Good!

Anyway, we made a rather large blunder this last time. We interviewed the band XIBALBA from Slovakia. Great guys, cool band-check 'em out. We did an email interview. They sent it back with their answers typed under the questions. Sounds like no problem so far, right? Well their answers were written in all capitals. The format of Metal Rules! is the interviewee's answers are set in Upper and lower case using Utopia Bold Italic (in case anyone is keeping track). So, the interview had to be retyped. Here's where the problem came in. Apparently when XIBALBA's name was typed it was misspelt. Instead it was spelt XIBALA. We missed the 'B'.

Believe it or not the interview was proof read by two people, both of whom received the biggest lashing of a lifetime, and they both read over it. It wasn't until we were contacted by the guys from XIBALBA that we were told of the misspelling.

We would like to express our apologies to the guys from XIBALBA. They gave us a great interview and pictures to work with...again guys we're really sorry about that.

Thank you,
Metal Rules! Magazine Staff

CORRECTION!!!

More Metalfest Pictures

Okay, so it's the Jasmin St. Clair page...you know you love it.

COMING UP NEXT ISSUE...

Metal Jeff himself takes you to the OzzFest!! That's right, good ol' Jeffy runs amuck taking some wild and crazy pictures with anyone and everyone.

Join us next time for the same *Metal Rules!* silly antics that you all have grown to love.

...and now a mongoloid in pain

See ya next time!!!

Congratulations
Chris & Tracy

The EDITORS' *Page...*

...the final chapter

This issue we'd like to discuss our campaign for world domination. Now, I know what your thinkin'. "They're gonna make us all wear rubber beanies and snap each other in the bottoms with wet naps". Well, that's not a bad idea but we'll discuss that in the second year.

On to business. When in place as supreme rulers, we will make it a requirement (that means you have to) that everyone wear their I.Q. on their sleeve. Some of you might be embarassed by this but it's for the good of mankind. Just think of the hours and pain you will save by avoiding the mindless zombies that might work at the local music shop or the porn mag stand. Although if you ask me, the ones with their finger in their nose and wear pants that cover their feet are a dead give away. You could bypass the brain dead and move right on to the slightly more intelligent managers, who aren't that much more bright but have no goals in life and have probably been there a number of years.

When in place as the uber leaders, all international disputes will be resolved in Madison Square Garden through NERF Battles. The Candy asses that cry home to Mommy first...Lose! All Nuclear weapons will only have two purposes:
1) To start intergalactic wars with Mars
or
B) To power a huge factory that will pump out twinkies by the tons and broadcast a 24 hour All Wrestling Station available to all...even Mexico.

And now to illustrate more lusciously our brillant rebuilding of the world, which will be renamed "Stone Cold Rock #3", my effervescent Co-Leader...You've seen him on Late Night with David Letterman...He's insulted your mom twice...He's coming to an S&M shop near you...Jeremy!

Thank you. Thank you. Thank you and Fuck you! Yes, as my colleague has aforementioned we are constructing plans for a better world. I will now take the time to explain the "priveledges" of our new regime.

Driving. Yes, we all do it but, most of you do it bad. The rest of us don't know why. Going back to Josh's I.Q. test, if you're I.Q. isn't at a certain level (about 2) then you obviously aren't smart enough to properly operate a vehicle. All you cel phone muther fuckers are open game. That's right lock and load!! You're driving-concentrate on the road. If you need to call someone pull the hell over. If you're caught using a cel phone in a restricted area (a moving vehicle) you will have to be punished. The punishment will be a full body cavity search using the phone. Directly following that you will be placed in an orange plaid room and forced to listen to the Bay City Rollers until you're cured of this syndrome known as "Jackassaholic".

Moving right along we find it our duty to make sure that no more idiots are born to this world. Again going back to the I.Q. test, you have to have a high score. Think about it if you fail you've just proven that you're too stupid to take care of kids.

When we rule we can fuck whoever the hell we want. Not only will it be acceptable it will be respected!! We will do away with the White House. It will become The Evil Hypnotic Purple Castle. All female interns will be required to wear bikini thongs. Congress will be changed over to a home for the old. Phil Anselmo will be anointed Secretary of Defense...as usual Reggie White will be the Minister of Defense.

To apply for the intern position send 8x10 glossies of yourself-naked. Only female interns 18 and older will be accepted at this time. Unless Josh gets a hankerin' for 14 inches of hot pulsing man meat.

Now to cast your vote for us and to apply for the intern position please write to:

Josh and Jeremy Are Our Leaders
PO Box 1531
Bellmawr, New Jersey
08099-5531 USA

Thank you for your support